Norita resigns as private investigator for Ataligs. PAGE 3
CCC weighs questioning IPI whether it can finish IPR. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

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DOF: Tax refund money used for Yutu recovery

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The tax refund money that is set aside in the tax rebate trust account was temporarily used to fund the CNMI government's expenses during the recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu, causing the delay in the issuance of tax refunds this fiscal year 2019.

Usually distributed by the end of May or early July, the issuance of tax refunds continues to be delayed, with Finance Secretary David Atalig saying yesterday that the money allotted for this in the rebate trust account was used after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres declared a CNMI emergency in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu in October 2018.

The rebate trust account was created in the late 1990s.

"…With the governor's emergency declaration for the

See DOF on Page 4

CNMI Labor: Touchback provision will hurt economy

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Benavente

The immigration law's touchback provision that would require foreign workers who get their work permits to exit the CNMI for 30 days would be devastating to the still-recovering CNMI economy, according to Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente yesterday.

See LABOR on Page 4

MUSIC FOR PEACE

Eighty-seven-year-old Kensei Kamiunten, an Okinawan who was born in San Roque, plays the harmonica as a sign of lasting relationship and peace between Okinawans and Saipan during yesterday's visit of the Micronesia Repatriation Association at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

BEA CABRERA

Story on Page 10

New citizenship rule for US military kids

By ASTRID GALVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX (AP)—The Trump administration unveiled Wednesday new rules that will make it harder for children of some immigrants serving in the military to obtain citizenship.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services released updated guidance Wednesday that appears to mostly affect non-citizen service members but which caused confusion among immigration lawyers and advocates after a document appeared to show children of American citizens would also be affected.

Department of Defense spokeswoman Lt. Col. Carla

See KIDS on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
Five teens complete a Summer Canoe Camp that introduced them to traditional canoe culture.

PAGE 8

LOCAL
Furusato at the Paseo De Marianas in Garapan is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

PAGE 11

BUSINESS
The CNMI Department of Commerce recently hosted an export training workshop.

PAGE 19

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Local

Back-to-school donations sought

Pride Marianas Youth is holding a back-to-school drive to collect school items and even used clothes that would be given to middle and high school students.

The drive, which started in late August, will run the entire month of September, and calls on the community to donate items like backpacks, re-useable water bottles, hygiene supplies, notebooks, and gently used clothing, shoes, and socks.

"The community can help by making donations from the school supplies list we put together…and help us spread the message about the drive," said PMY's Jennifer Maratita.

Donations can be dropped off at the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence office on the second floor of the MH-1 Building in Puerto Rico and at The Shack in Oleai.

PMY will also have a booth at the Youth Mental Health Fairs, to raise awareness and to reach out to the LGBTQ+ youth. The fairs will run on Saipan throughout September, and in October on Rota and Tinian.

"We will pass out the school supplies at the mental health fairs for students who visit our booth and who may be willing to sign the Ally Pledge banner, a peer support effort to curb bullying of our youth," Maratita added.

The items will be given to counseling offices to give to students as they request for them. ***(Iva Maurin)***

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Norita resigns as a private investigator for Atalig duo

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services commissioner Claudio K. Norita was hired as a private investigator by Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig and his girlfriend, Evelyn Atalig, in their corruption case, according to court documents filed in federal court yesterday.

Attorneys David G. Banes and Steven P. Pixley, however, disclosed that Norita informed Efraim and Evelyn Atalig last Tuesday that he had been advised by his attorney that he could no longer do outside work because of his employment by the CNMI government.

Banes and Pixley, who are the lawyers for Efraim and Evelyn Atalig, respectively, said that Norita had asked to be cut from the case as his company, Trublu Resources, was recently appointed by the CNMI government to provide census services of housing units on island.

As a result, Banes and Pixley said, they and their clients need time to find a new private investigator who will look into the case, including interviewing potential witnesses.

The lawyers asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to postpone the trial, which is currently set on Oct. 1, 2019, and reset the pretrial conference and pre-trial deadlines accordingly.

They said the Ataligs agreed to hire Norita as their private investigator on May 22, 2019.

Norita is also a former commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.

Banes and Pixley said they and the Ataligs had multiple meetings with Norita to discuss the investigation and then the status of the investigation.

They said Norita then stated that he would travel to Rota and Guam to interview potential witnesses.

The charges against the Ataligs now involve at least eight trips taken by the Ataligs in different times in 2018 to Guam, Palau, the U.S. mainland, South Korea, and Saipan.

The lawyers said there is a significant number of potential witnesses on Rota, Saipan, and even outside the CNMI such as Guam and in U.S. mainland.

To adequately prepare for the Ataligs' defense, the lawyers said they needed to hire a private investigator to conduct investigations and obtain information from potential witnesses.

The lawyer said that, in April 2019,the two defendants traveled to the Philippines, where Efraim Atalig had heart surgery, with Evelyn Atalig accompanying him.

Banes and Pixley said the Ataligs asked the court for a continuance of the trial, to give Efraim Atalig enough time for his rehabilitation treatment and recovery. The U.S. government did not oppose. The court postponed the trial to Oct. 1, 2019.

The lawyers said that, upon the Ataligs' return to Saipan, they (Banes and Pixley) discussed the hiring of a private investigator and interviewed potential witnesses. They said the defendants then agreed to hire Norita.

Banes and Pixley said that failure to grant the continuance of trial requested would deny the Ataligs' counsels the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into account the exercise of due diligence.

The Ataligs are being charged with wire fraud, theft concerning programs receiving federal funds, and conspiracy to commit wire fraud and federal funds theft. Each of them faces a separate charge of false statement.

The defendants have pleaded not guilty.

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Triple J, affiliates support MINA, Green Gala

Triple J Saipan, Inc. and its affiliate businesses on Saipan have donated $2,000 to Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance to support the Green Gala that will be held on Sept. 13 at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Mike Sablan, Triple J Saipan vice president of finance and administration, was joined by other Triple J officers in presenting the donation to MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero and other MINA volunteers at the one of Triple J's restaurants, Surf Club, in Chalan Kanoa.

In presenting the donation, Sablan said, "MINA displays an unwavering dedication for its continued avocation for the protection and preservation of our natural resources. A commitment which shows sincere passion for such work and is admirable. We are proud to support their efforts."

Triple J Saipan officers surround Mike Sablan, Triple J Saipan vice president of finance and administration and Roberta Guerrero, executive director of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guerrero said that Triple J Saipan "continues to exhibit their commitment to conservation and our environment, and we're so honored to have them on board once again as sponsors for our Green Gala, as well as their annual sponsorship of our Adopt-a-Bin program.

"This is the type of support that allows MINA to continue with our mission of empowering communities for conservation, and we are very appreciative of their ongoing efforts for the betterment of our community," said Guerrero.

Its support of MINA is part of Triple J Saipan's green practices. Affiliates adhere to sustainable, green business practices in one capacity or another, from waste management to the use of eco-friendly materials and equipment.

Triple J Enterprises, Inc. has served the islands for over three decades. It has several affiliates, which include the Triple J Auto Group, Triple J Commercial Tire, Triple J Rentals (Hertz Rent A Car), Five Star Wholesale Foods, and Triple J Restaurant Group (Outback Steakhouse in Guam, Tony Roma's, Capricciosa and Truong's Vietnamese restaurant on Saipan). ***(PR)***

Joint Region Marianas hosts Okinawa governor

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas, Andersen Air Force Base, and U.S. Naval Base Guam leadership hosted Okinawa Gov. Yasuhiro Tamaki during his visit to Guam yesterday, Aug. 29.

The Marine relocation effort has been in planning for more than 10 years, and the current program established by the Security Consultative Committee in 2012, is now in progress.

"…It is our honor to welcome and speak with Gov. Tamaki during his time on island," said Rear Adm. John Menoni, commander, JRM. "We remain committed to our agreement with the government of Japan to relocate Marine Corps forces to the island, and we are grateful to show the progress we've made in this endeavor. We are also committed to being good neighbors and partners with the people of Guam, the Legislature, and the government of Guam, and to continue our partnership to ensure Defense Program Review Initiative projects related to the Marine Corps relocation are on track."

After a meeting with Menoni and Brig. Gen. Gentry Boswell, JRM deputy commander and 36th Wing commander, on Andersen Air Force Base, the governor viewed Marine Corps DPRI-related projects on the base, including the site infrastructure project and the north gate entrance funded by the government of Japan, and numerous aviation-related projects.

Tamaki then traveled to the future site of the Marine Corps base along roads being improved through the Defense Access Roads program. Here he observed ongoing construction of the main cantonment, portions of which are funded by the government of Japan as part of their contribution to the relocation of Marines to Guam. The governor also visited NBG and viewed Marine Corps projects and government of Japan-funded sites, including the completed pier-side welcome center and the site of a new medical and dental clinic.

"We are honored to host Gov. Tamaki today and to show him the progress being made in Guam in keeping with the Japan-U.S. bi-lateral agreements," said Menoni. "Today, Mr. Tamaki saw that we continue to make steady progress on the construction of facilities for the Marines."

The Japan government's contributions to date is more than $2 billon, nearly two-thirds of their commitment to that progress.

"We believe the necessary facilities will be completed on time to allow the movement of Marines to begin in accordance with the U.S.-Japan agreement," said Menoni. "We are grateful that Gov. Tamaki and his delegation took the time to travel to Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands." ***(PR)***

KIDS

From Page 1

M. Gleason said in a statement that the department worked closely with USCIS and "understands the estimated impact of this particular change is small."

"However, we are committed to ensuring affected families are provided the appropriate information, resources, and support during this transition," Gleason said.

The policy manual update is highly technical and contradicts parts of an 11-page memo the agency initially put out that implied American citizens were among those whose children would no longer be automatically granted citizenship if born abroad.

Agency spokeswoman Meredith Parker told the military news organization Task and Report that the policy change "explains that we will not consider children who live abroad with their parents to be residing in the United States even if their parents are U.S. government employees or U.S. service members stationed outside of the United States, and as a result, these children will no longer be considered to have acquired citizenship automatically."

Her boss, acting director Ken Cuccinelli, played down the changes in a Twitter statement, saying the update doesn't deny citizenship to children of government and military members.

"This policy aligns USCIS' process with the Department of State's procedures for these children — that's it. Period."

The policy change is yet another roadblock that the administration of President Donald Trump has placed for people to live legally in the United States, said immigration attorney Martin W. Lester, who is based in Tennessee and who serves on the military assistance committee of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

It appears to target children of service members who are legal permanent residents and not U.S. citizens, but could also affect citizens if they can't prove they lived in the U.S. for a certain amount of time. People in those scenarios would have to undergo a more cumbersome process for obtaining American citizenship for their kids.

"It's gonna take time, money, it's gonna cause stress. There's gonna be some people whose kids aren't gonna qualify and that's gonna cause a huge problem," Lester said.

Parker, the USCIS spokeswoman, repeatedly refused to answer questions from The Associated Press, referring only to Cuccinelli's Twitter statement.

Immigrant advocates have said the Trump administration has unfairly treated members of the military who aren't American citizens. The AP reported last year that the Army was quietly and abruptly discharging soldiers who enlisted through a special recruitment program that promised a path to citizenship.

DOF

From Page 1

response and recovery of Super Typhoon Yutu, all monies were used to get us through. Unfortunately, we were not reimbursed quickly as anticipated; therefore, I couldn't replenish it to the levels needed for the full refund," Atalig told *Saipan Tribune*.

The local law that created the rebate account states nothing about allowing the use of the money for emergency purposes. Atalig concedes that the tax rebate account was created for that purpose—to pay for the tax refunds—but he reiterated the emergency declaration for the use of the funds in the account.

"Again, because of the emergency declaration, the monies were utilized for the disaster," he said.

Atalig assured that he and his office are working with the federal Public Assistance Office and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to get reimbursements and pay out the tax refunds as soon as possible.

"I continually seek the public's patience as we do our best to move forward and recover from the disaster economically," he said.

Torres shared a similar message in a previous statement to the *Saipan Tribune*. He noted that the tax refunds hinge on the federal reimbursements since the money was "used for Yutu recovery."

"We are hoping that once we get [federal agency] reimbursements, then we will give out the tax refunds," he had said.

LABOR

From Page 1

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Benavente noted that while her department agrees with most of the recommendations the Saipan Chamber of Commerce had submitted to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), the touchback provision, as described by the Chamber in their four-page letter to Sablan, would most definitely devastate the CNMI's economy.

"…If we have to follow that law, and we have to follow that provision of the law, then that would hurt the economy further. We are still in recovery mode. Super Typhoon Yutu… really wreaked havoc on our community," she said.

That "touchback provision," which would require a foreign worker to leave the CNMI and "touch back" their home countries, is part of the requirements outlined in U.S. Public Law 115-218, the law that effectively extended the foreign worker program, or CW program, to 2029.

According to P.L. 115-218, at the expiration of the second renewal period of a CW permit holder, the employee would not be eligible for a renewal until after the employee exits the CNMI for 30 consecutive days before an employer can then submit a renewal petition.

"It's going to put a strain on the workers here," Benavente said.

She noted that with a large amount of workers gone for a few days, she fears that businesses might have to reduce hours in order to cope with the temporary drop in manpower.

"Businesses may be forced to close their operations," she said. "…If operations shut down, you lose U.S. citizen workers. If operating hours are reduced, your workers, whether U.S. citizens or foreign workers, will all feel the effect."

When asked why the Labor Department did not speak up during discussions on P.L. 115-218, Benavente noted that this was one of the "unintended consequences" of the legislation.

"I don't think we realized the impact at that point in time," she said. "Also, the regulations came out rather quickly and not fully discussed at the table with everyone. Now, we are hearing from the businesses [about losing employees and hesitating to stock up]."

"This situation was not anticipated, was not expected. The end result was to be sure U.S. workers is given preference in the workforce," she added.

The Chamber's letter, as signed by president Velma Palacios, recommends changing the provision in order to avert shutting down a "volatile economy."

Other requests for changes in P.L. 115-218 include supporting periodic prevailing wage survey over an annual survey; providing local jurisdiction to the CNMI Labor Department to carry out Temporary Labor Certifications and prevailing wage determinations for faster processing times; an increased window for CW visa holders to enter the CNMI after receiving their visa; and allowing a five-year period that allows construction workers to apply for CW visas.

In general, Benavente told *Saipan Tribune* that she was in support of the recommendations.

"Most of the contents in the letter I support," she said.

When asked about her department undertaking the prevailing wage determinations and the Temporary Labor Certification processing, she noted that her department is up to the task.

"Since we are also on the ground, we can check on businesses," she said. "Anything to help our businesses survive…we [CNMI DOL] can do this."

As of publication, Sablan has yet to confirm his receipt of the Chamber's letter. *Saipan Tribune* learned Wednesday that he is in transit to the U.S. as of Tuesday morning.

Saipan Tribune learned Wednesday afternoon that Palacios reportedly discussed the letter with the delegate.

CCC weighs questioning IPI finances

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is looking at having the sole casino licensee certify that it is financially capable of completing the casino project.

In their monthly meeting last Wednesday, the CCC said it's looking to review the financial capability of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC to continue their casino resort in Garapan.

However, the commission deferred acting on CCC order 2019-004, which seeks eight items of information that would prove that IPI has the financial capacity to complete the casino.

"There is no order. It's a [proposal]," CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero clarified. "That proposal was not entertained. But within that proposal, [IPI is required to report to CCC within] 90 days."

The CCC deferred acting on the order, but did not kill it.

Deleon Guerrero did confirm that, within the order, the CCC would be seeking information on a reported $500-million loan IPI was able to secure from Japan. He noted that the order also clarifies if the loan would go to the construction of the casino or other financial obligations.

Deleon Guerrero

"We want to more about that and we want to make sure that that money, if available, will actually… be reserved and used for the [casino] and satisfy its other obligations,' he said. "…This has a lot to do with basically meeting their financial obligations."

Saipan Tribune learned Wednesday that there were several versions of the order, all of which were not acted on.

"We are tracking the financial position of this company, so if you see certain vendors are not being paid on time, certain license fees are [paid] late…we want some assurances that this company is financially suitable," Deleon Guerrero said.

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10 MORE GRADUATE FROM CNMI DRUG COURT

'NMI govt saves $1.55M in prison costs at a minimum'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With 10 more individuals graduating from the CNMI Drug Court Program yesterday, the CNMI government has saved at least $1.55 million in incarceration costs, according to Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

The program now has 34 graduates, including the 10 new ones, according to Kim-Tenorio at the 6th CNMI Drug Court graduation ceremony at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center yesterday.

The CNMI Drug Court Program itself is turning three years old.

With the ceremony yesterday, the drug charges against the 10 graduates were dismissed with finality.

In a later interview, Kim-Tenorio, who handles the drug court, disclosed that, of the program's 34 graduates, five have been re-arrested on drug charges. That means an 85% success rate, which Kim-Tenorio described as "very good."

The program currently has over 40 active participants, including one who just pleaded guilty yesterday to drug trafficking.

There are about seven or eight more on the wait list, Kim-Tenorio said.

"When I say waiting, that means they need to go through the clinical assessment. There is an assessment process. And then, all of that is put together into a report and presented to the court and I'm waiting for that," she said.

Kim-Tenorio said she is very proud of all the 10 graduates. She noted that about eight or nine of them have completed the full two years of the program.

"I feel that they are better prepared. And I also feel that they are fortunate because the drug court is getting older. We are almost three years old," she said.

That includes learning every day about addiction and about improving the program.

The judge described as "amazing" the government's and the private sectors' acceptance and participation in the program. In the beginning, there were only one or two private companies that were willing to join the program. "Now there are so many," Kim-Tenorio said, citing that private companies have now reached out to them.

"We tell exactly what's going on and they take the chance on them and we really, really thank our private businesses for giving them a chance, and giving them the opportunity to prove themselves," she said.

Kim-Tenorio said their caseworkers check up on all the graduates periodically.

"In my chamber, I have a wall and I list all the graduates' name. and I look at it every day. It's literally right next to me," she said.

For the ones on the list that she has not seen recently, she would inquire about that specific graduate with the case worker. She said caseworker would then call the person to find out.

Before moving to dismiss the charges against the 10 graduates, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds urged them not to take their sobriety for granted and not return to the drug court.

"I have a little suggestion. Do not go out and party tonight. Because this graduation is not the end of the road. This little graduation is just the beginning," Hinds said.

Dr. John L. Doyle III, who served as the keynote speaker at the ceremony, said addiction is an ailment and he is so proud of the CNMI for stepping up by establishing the drug court program.

Doyle said what is more important is that the drug court participants have the support of the government, business sector, community, and their families.

"Because we believe that you [want to] to change your life," he said. "This is only the beginning. You're just starting. You are warriors and we will fight together and we will win."

He described the graduates as warriors because they protect their sobriety and that incarceration is never an answer to an ailment but treatment.

The graduates are Carina Castro, Lorraine Ada, Herman Angui, Emerita Camacho, Vicente Castro, Jessica Leon Guerrero, Jeff C. Magofna, Tara Namauleg, Jose Ngeskebei, and Charles C. Torres.

One of the new drug court graduates, Ada, said she is now 510 days sober—a feat that drew much applause from Kim, drug court team members, and the audience that included Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, some lawmakers, law enforcers, and community members.

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Prospects touted for private hospital

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A privately-operated hospital that is being proposed in As Perdido is being touted as a means to reduce the number of off-island referrals and keep patients on the islands.

In a brochure provided by Dr. Gene Eagle-Oden, who authored the brochure with Dr. Gary Ramsey, it said the proposed Marianas Specialty Referral Hospital seeks to provide medical specialty services that are not currently offered in the CNMI that result in medical referrals.

The brochure, which is an economic impact analysis of the project, identifies Dr. Leon Li as the project's developer and states that the hospital aims to reduce medical and insurance costs and eliminate the inconvenience and travel costs of off-island medical referrals.

A separate statement that Ogden sent to the media says the project has received positive feedback, that Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang does not oppose the new hospital and had written the CNMI Legislature and the CNMI Zoning board to approve the finals plans for the new hospital. It also quotes the Commonwealth Health Care Corp. As having asked the CNMI Legislature to ensure that the specialty referral hospital be accredited by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The proposed 50-room inpatient hospital plans to provide specialty services such as hyperbaric chambers for diabetic and pre-amputees; orthopedics services; cardiovascular treatments; oncology; neonatology; infertility treatment; a wellness clinic with the latest advancements in natural modalities, naturopathy, and homeopathy that complement allopathic and orthodox medicine; and an outpatient clinic.

The hospital does not intend to provide emergency medical services with ambulance transports and birthing of off-island mothers.

"MSRH developers believe that CHCC is a very fine well-equipped hospital with a highly trained staff of nurses and doctors that are already satisfying the needs by providing these services to the residents of Saipan," the statement adds.

The hospital is proposed to be built in As Perdido, right by the Mango Resort. Last Monday, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed a bill that would allow hospitals to operate in village commercial zones. That would essentially pave the way for MSRH to be allowed to operate at the proposed site in As Perdido.

The bill essentially allows private hospitals to operate on village commercial zones, or zones that are generally reserved for leisure establishments due to its close proximity to resident areas.

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Reviving the canoe culture

IVA MAURIN

The Indigenous Affairs Office and 500 Sails organized an appreciation get-together to celebrate the journey of the first Summer Canoe Camp participants.

The Indigenous Affairs Office and 500 Sails recently celebrated the achievement of five teens who completed a Summer Canoe Camp that introduced them to traditional canoe culture, including building and sailing.

The monthlong camp saw Miles Timmons, 14; Conall Hartig, 14; Matthew Ernest, 14; Tama Salas, 16; and Ryan Hunter Simon, 16, taking part in efforts to revive the canoe culture on the islands.

Timmons said they learned how to sail and how to build a canoe using fiberglass.

IAO program manager Cris Ogo urged the participants at a recent get-together to let other youths know that the camp is "a safe place to work and that it is fun."

"Continue to contribute and inspire other youth to join the program," he added.

IAO resident executive Roman Tudela Jr. thanked 500 Sails for its partnership. "500 Sails has been with us from the very beginning…and they have been taking a lot of steps to facilitate the revival of the canoe," Tudela said.

500 Sails executive director Peter J. Perez said that reviving the canoe culture means making the canoe a part of people's daily lives. "That means people who fish, who use canoes for daily transportation, people who build and fix canoes, have ceremonies, and meet around them."

Perez said the canoe culture was lost after the colonization of the islands. "We need to have that critical mass to make the canoe culture re-established," Perez added. ***(Iva Maurin)***

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Zero power outages on Tinian

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian now has zero power outages as the island has enough electric power, having an available capacity of 20MW, but with a peak demand of just 2MW, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Tinian resident director Evelyn Manglona.

Manglona

In her report to the CUC board during a meeting last Monday, Manglona assured that CUC Tinian has no problem with both its power and water supply.

In a later interview, Manglona said that everyone on Tinian got back their power supply either in March and April.

For power, the island has 689 residential customers, 123 commercial customers, and 97 government accounts, for a total of 909 clients.

About the island's water supply, Manglona said CUC Tinian produced 28.5 million gallons from their Maui Well 2 in July.

The island has 657 residential water customers, 71 commercial water customers, and 38 government accounts, for a total of 766 water customers.

Manglona said that CUC Tinian's water customers got their water supply back much earlier—last November and December.

Super Typhoon Yutu devastated Tinian and Saipan last Oct. 24 and 25.

Manglona said their non-revenue water loss is at 70% last July and CUC Tinian is working with CUC Saipan to look into why the island has such a high water loss. At the moment, CUC Tinian is not sure why and Manglona said she has no information as to the previous water loss percentage.

At the meeting, CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore said that CUC changed some of the water pumps on Tinian, which is why he thought the water loss there is only at 40%.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho said that part of the challenge with non-revenue water loss is that there is a lot of water lines that's not even on CUC records and it's not only about fixing the existing infrastructure but also identifying everything that isn't on the map.

"They're findings valves that they never knew existed," Camacho said.

He said that's why they keep finding new valves and new pipes that they never knew existed.

"In fact, down here by Guangdong [on Saipan], a year and half ago when I was there, they showed me a pipe that they never knew existed," Camacho said.

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BEA CABRERA

Officers and members of the Micronesia Repatriation Association call on Saipan Mayor David Apatang at the Saipan Mayor's Office in Susupe yesterday. This year marks MRA's 50th year of visiting Saipan.

Apatang to MRA: Saipan is your second home'

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Officers and members of the Micronesia Repatriation Association from Okinawa, Japan, called on Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang yesterday. That may be the group's final courtesy call on the Saipan mayor since the group plans to stop its annual visit to the CNMI this year—its 50th since making the annual pilgrimage to the CNMI.

Apatang himself assured the officers and members of MRA that Saipan "is your second home and you are a part of us."

"We welcome you back… and for the last five years that I have been mayor, it has been a pleasure meeting your group every year," he added.

The MRA was created as an association of Okinawans who were born and used to live in the CNMI. Majority of them were born and raised here until World War II changed the course of their lives. After the war, they and their families were flown back to Okinawa. Many of MRA's current members are descendants of the former Saipan residents.

Apatang acknowledged that shared history yesterday. "The history here is yours as well and we want to thank you for coming back every year and praying for those that have left us during the war 75 years ago. For our part, we will continue to pray for you too," he said.

The first MRA trip was held in 1968. This year marks their 50th year of traveling to Saipan and also their last.

According to Hiroko Tajima of Pacific Development Inc., the tour company that handles the logistics of the annual trip, most of the MRA's members are in their 70s and 80s and traveling has become burdensome. "Having no direct flights from Japan also doesn't help. Now they have to travel to at least two places before reaching Saipan and also when they go back to Okinawa," she said.

One of MRA's members, 87-year-old Kensei Kamiunten, was born and raised in San Roque. He and his family moved to Okinawa after the war when he was 12 years old. "To me, Saipan is my first home and Okinawa is my second. That is why I keep coming back," he said.

"I appreciate how the residents of Saipan always prepare for our visit. …This visit would be our last but I would still try to come back, not as an organization but as a personal visit to see Saipan, as I would like to continue the relationship between Saipan and Okinawa," Kamiunten added.

Apatang urged the MRA to turn over the tour to the younger generation as his office would like to maintain the strong relationship between Saipan and Okinawa. "This is a valuable relationship that we want to carry on," he added.

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SAIPAN LOCATIONS: Gualo Rai, Chalan Piao, Paseo de Marianas, Garapan

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Half-price as Furusato marks 20th anniversary

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Furusato Japanese Sashimi Restaurant at the Paseo De Marianas in Garapan is celebrating its 20th anniversary this month and is offering a 50% discount on all dinner menu items, including beverages, for two whole days only—from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1, from 6pm to 10pm.

Furusato president Hideaki Sawada explained that they decided to offer the promo discount during dinner time instead of lunch "because people have more time to enjoy [dinner] with family and friends."

The Furusato restaurant can accommodate 85 people and, this early, half of that number have already booked their dinner reservations with the restaurant to avail of the promo.

"Lunch time only captures friends and co-workers, whereas dinner time, we have both plus they can bring their families," Sawada added.

Furusato was established at the Paseo de Marianas in 1999.

For two decades now, the Furusato Japanese Sashimi Restaurant has been providing the community and tourists the highest quality Japanese cuisine, prepared meticulously and skillfully by their in-house chefs.

"The special about thing about our dishes is that we have remained true in using the right ingredients for every dish. Over the years, our taste and flavor have never changed because the ingredients stay the same. This is how we maintain the good quality of our food," Sawada said.

"[In addition], we always aim to get the right ambiance for our customers and this include good customer service and affordability," Sawada added.

Despite the hefty discount the restaurant will offer on Aug. 31 to Sept. 1, Furusato will continue to serve quality seafood, soups, noodles, and meat. This, Sawada said, is Furusato's way of saying thanks to the CNMI for their support and continued patronage for the past 20 years.

"We like to thank everyone. …We appreciate that whenever they crave for authentic Japanese taste, they come to Furusato," Sawada added.

In Nihonggo (the Japanese language), Furusato means "hometown" and Sawada said that Saipan has become the restaurant's hometown these last 20 years "…and we look forward to [being here] for another 20 years or more."

All-time favorite "Katsudon" or pork cutlet on rice is part of the Furusato dinner menu where customers will only pay half of its price from Aug. 31 up to Sept. 1, from 6pm to 10pm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Whether with rice or beer, Furusato's Yakitori Moriawase is the perfect partner. Pay only half the price from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1, from 6pm to 10pm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Japanese meal is not the same without Furusato's gyoza or steamed fry dumpling as a side dish. Pay only half the price from Aug. 31 up to Sept. 1, from 6pm to 10pm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

KagES to hold classes at COVMS

Kagman Elementary School will be holding classes at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School when the school year starts this Tuesday, Sept. 3 due to issues with KagES' electrical systems.

» Both schools to hold half-day sessions

Because of this arrangement COVMS will be having half-day sessions, said KES school principal Dr. Ignacia Demapan.

She said that KES staff noticed that the electricity from the transformer overloaded the school's junction box, producing smoke. This has been hindering the elementary school since last Monday, and it forced them to move their orientations to COVMS.

Demapan said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. already knows about this and is already fixing it, although there is no fixed timeframe on this.

"It may take up to one month or more until classes are held at the elementary school, as we are still working with CUC and a contractor to work on this," she said.

KagES will be holding its classes at COVMS from 7:30am to 11:30am, and the middle school will hold its classes from 12:30pm to 4pm. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

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Student events boost leadership traits

Mount Carmel School recently hosted a Student Activities Fair and Student Leadership Retreat to encourage its students to be active leaders and participants in the community.

The Student Activities Fair was held on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019, in the Maturana Building on the campus. More than 26 clubs were able to reach out to new and returning members. Many of the clubs reflect the values of the school and the interests of the students.

That following Saturday on Aug. 24, 2019, Mount Carmel School's student body officers hosted a Student Leadership Retreat to engage student leaders in activities that promote teamwork, leadership, tools for success, and fundraising efforts for the rest of the school year.

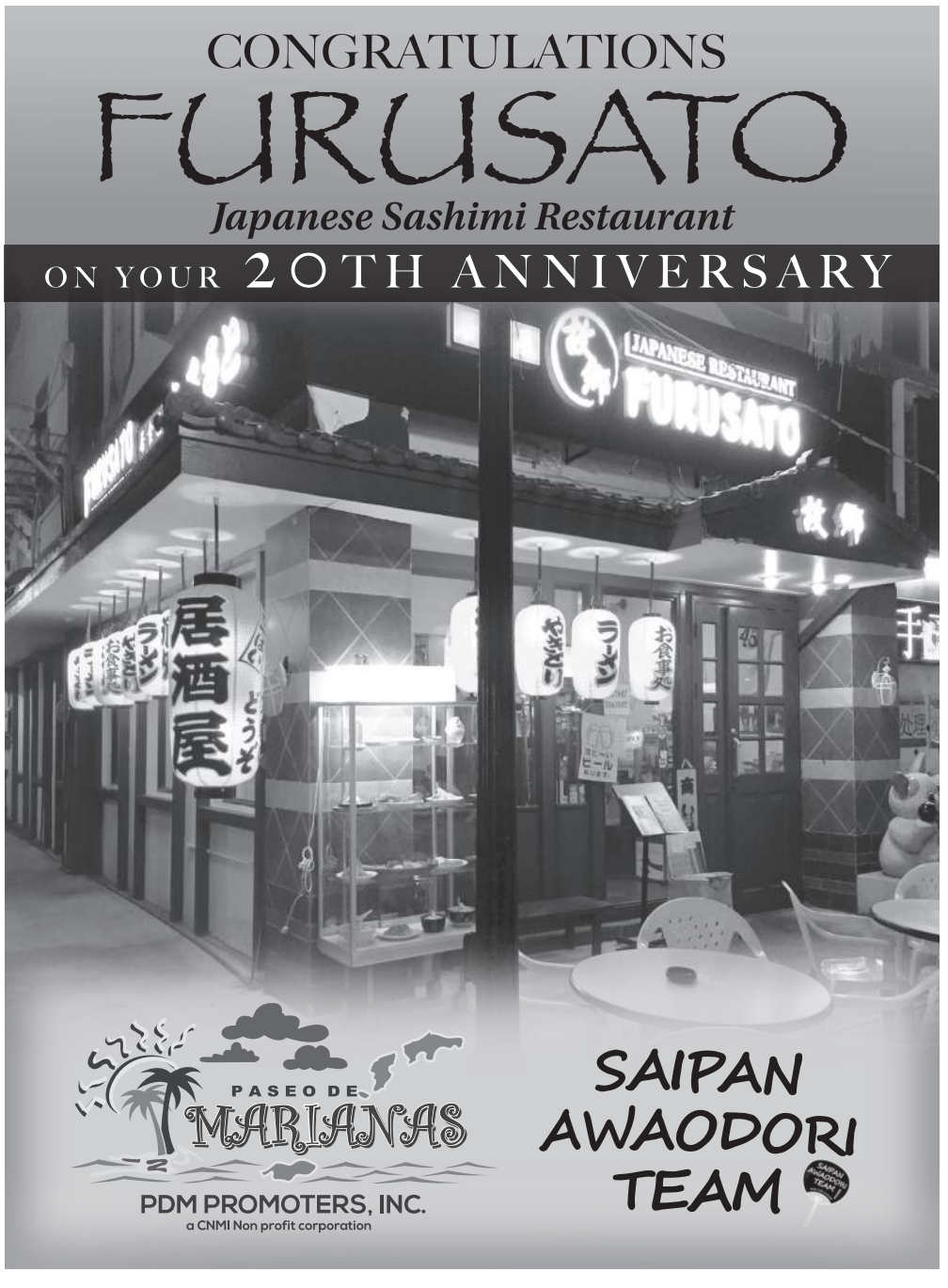
"It is very promising to see many of our students at MCS wanting to take on leadership opportunities and engage with their peers," said MCS student body president Kalea Borja. "With more than 26 existing clubs, we're certain for another exciting and eventful school year."

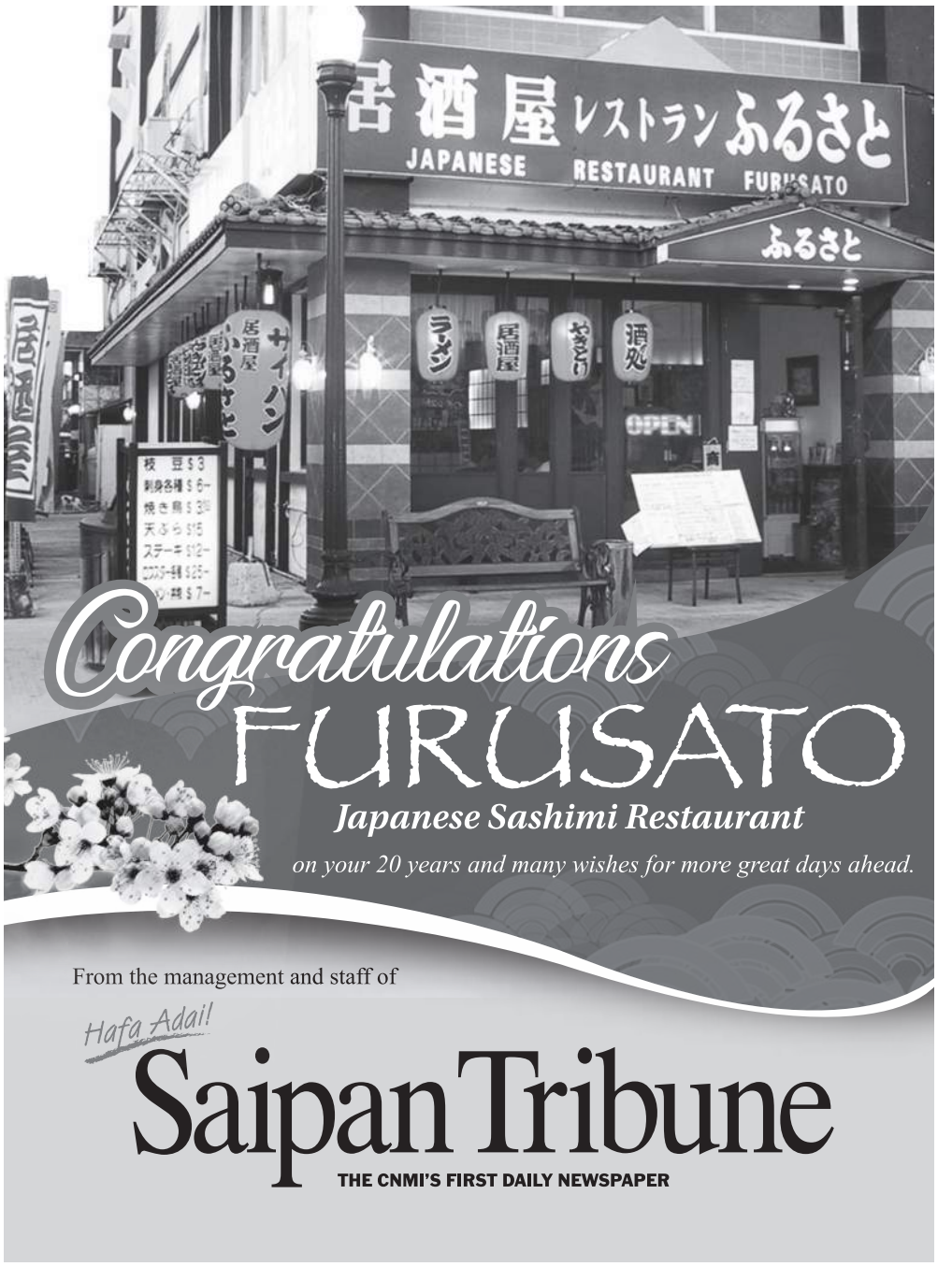
Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Mount Carmel School president, said, "Our team at Mount Carmel School continuously aims to help our students learn, teach, lead, and grow with a growth mindset. We are especially proud of the leadership our students have demonstrated because most of the clubs are student-led."

"As their advisers and mentors, we are happy to support and guide our students," he added.

The clubs and organizations at Mount Carmel School include Art Club, Band Club, Boy's Fast Pitch Team, Boys Soccer Team, Cross Country, Dance Club, Eco-Club, Game Club, Girl's Fast Pitch Team, Girls Soccer Team, Golf Team, Knights of the Altar, Math Court, Men's Basketball Team, National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Junior Speech and Debate Association, National Speech and Debate Association, PGFC, Red Cross, Ted-Ed Club, Theatre Club, Thespians Society, Vox Knights, Weightlifting Club, and the Women's Basketball Team.

For more information about Mount Carmel School activities and events, visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. ***(PR)***





2 graduate from McDonald's Hamburger University

Mable Ayuyu Glenn, left photo, and Majellyn Calceta pose for a photo with professor Lori Prymak upon graduating from McDonald's Hamburger University on Aug. 23. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

McDonald's of Guam and Saipan continues its commitment to the training and development of its people. In August, Majellyn Calceta, the training coordinator for McDonald's of Guam & Saipan, and Mable Ayuyu Glenn, executive assistant to the president, were selected to attend a five-day course on "Facilitating Exceptional Training" at McDonald's Hamburger University in Chicago, Illinois.

The class ran from Aug. 19 to 23 and included students from various parts of the world, including Canada, the Bahamas, and the United States. Calceta and Glenn were the only students that represented Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. The course included a combination of trainer discussions and activities focused on delivering effective training.

McDonald's of Guam and Saipan owner/operators Jose and Marcia Ayuyu were excited to have provided this opportunity and look forward to delivering a more effective training for their organization. The Ayuyus currently operate two McDonald's restaurants on Saipan and six McDonald's restaurants in Guam.

In talking about her experience, Calceta said, "I learned that effectively delivering the content to the audience (whether crew, crew trainers, and even top management) will help them achieve their goals in the restaurants and ultimately grow the business."

She described the course as informative and meaningful.

Calceta leads the training department and conducts training classes year-round for the Ayuyu organization.

Reflecting on her experience at MHU, Glenn said, "it was an amazing educational experience that takes a more interactive approach at learning. It was fun, challenging, and exciting all in one! It also made me look at training in a whole new light. I learned… how to train more effectively and how to measure that success in training."

Both Calceta and Glenn agree that they are walking away from the class with more knowledge to not only grow the business, but also to grow as an individual. They thanked Joe and Marcia Ayuyu for seeing and nurturing their leadership potentials and making MHU accessible to McDonald's Guam & Saipan.

Hamburger University, established in 1961, is designed as a training facility used to provide classes in various aspects of restaurant management. The classes are available to restaurant managers, mid-managers, owner/operators and franchisee office staff of McDonald's. More than 80,000 people have graduated from the university.

To date, McDonald's of Guam and Saipan have sent six individuals from Guam and the Northern Marianas to attend courses at MHU in Chicago, including their son, Joe Ayuyu Jr.

McDonald's of Guam & Saipan, owned and operated by franchisees Joe and Marcia Ayuyu, is the leading food service restaurant chain in the Marianas. First opened in 1993, the organization includes eight McDonald's restaurants (two on Saipan and six in Guam). In 2016, the Ayuyus acquired all McDonald's restaurants in Guam and the company remains one of the largest employers in the Marianas. ***(PR)***

Chamber meeting on Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's general membership meeting in September will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

It will feature two guest speakers: Maisie Tenorio, executive director of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence; and CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.

Tenorio will be sharing the coalition's plans during the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, while Benavente will be speaking about the CNMI's current labor issues and her office's current plans and projects.

Chamber members are invited to make short announcements at the end of the meeting.

Lunch will be served at 11:30am and the meeting will begin promptly at noon. The fee is $25 for Chamber members and $35 for non-members.

The Chamber is accepting reservations of six or more. To reserve your seat or for more information, contact the Chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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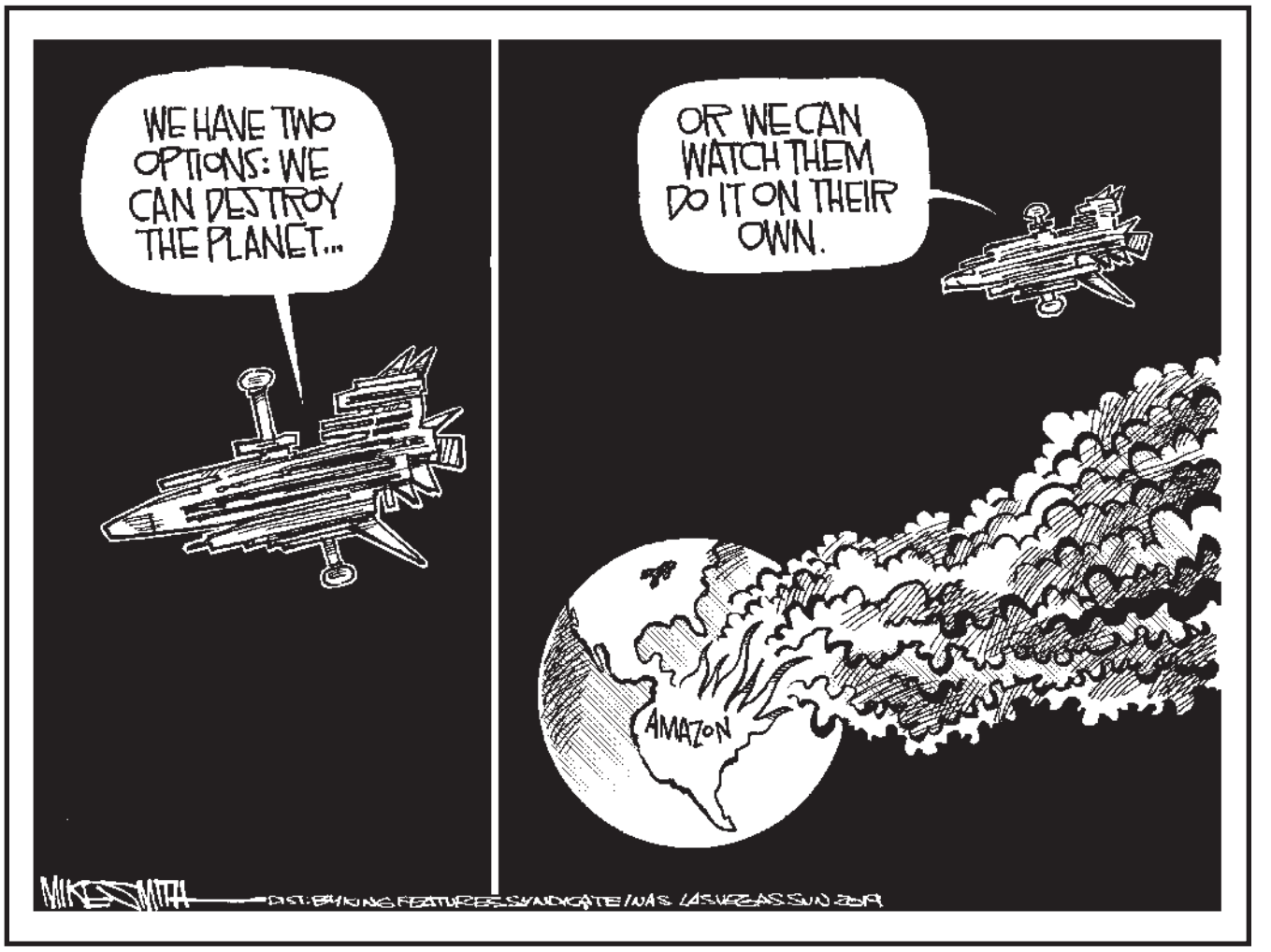


EDITORIAL

Destruction in the Amazon rainforest hurts the whole planet

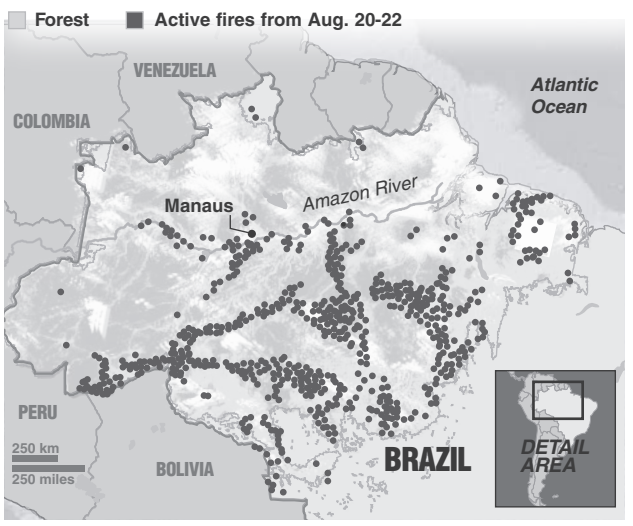
The Amazon is burning. That's hugely troubling for all of us.

The vast South American rainforest is our planet's lungs. Its estimated 390 billion trees produce 20% of the world's oxygen and suck immense amounts of carbon dioxide from the air. Besides being critical in the fight against climate change, the Amazon is home to indigenous people, incredible biodiversity and a vast array of known and still-unknown plant sources for drugs and other medications.

The horrific destruction in Brazil in particular—more than 41,000 fires have destroyed 4.6 million acres, 62% more than last year—is made worse by that government's complicity.

The burning Amazon

More than 2,500 active fires are ravaging the Amazon rainforest in Brazil, the most intense blazes for almost a decade.



Source: AP. BBC, Brazil National Institute for Space Research
Graphic: Staff, TNS

President Jair Bolsonaro, a hard-right populist who took office in January, has prioritized the desire of industries like mining and logging to milk the protected Amazon. And he has encouraged deforestation, which is up sharply this year. To clear land, farmers and ranchers illegally set fires, knowing they can break Brazil's tough environmental laws, which are no longer enforced under Bolsonaro.

Global outrage and anger at home finally forced Bolsonaro to announce plans to send in 44,000 soldiers to help fight the fires. The world, too, has been rallying, with special firefighting planes and a $20 million pledge from the G-7 countries announced Monday at the conclusion of the group's meetings in France.

But as the fight against the flames continues, the larger mission—persuading Brazil to stop destroying the rainforest—must be renewed. Between 2004 and 2012, deforestation was cut by 80% thanks to programs like the Amazon Fund, which was fueled by outside donations, primarily from the governments of Norway ($1.2 billion) and Germany ($68 mil-

See DESTRUCTION on Page 18

Through the looking glass

Farmers mostly

During the Japanese era here in the Marianas, thousands of individual farmers worked their own small plots growing sugar cane, truck farm vegetables, coffee, and fruits, mostly for export to the Japan homeland market. Most of those farmers were from Okinawa, south of the main Japanese islands. Over those decades they had developed the first successful sustainable economy these islands had seen since before the Western explorers "discovered" the local population who had been living here for more than 3,000 years. That economy was based on sustainable agriculture. Then came the horrors of war in 1944.

Earlier this week, for the 50th time, a planeload of people from Okinawa arrived on Saipan to remember the many who lost their lives in the Pacific War during World War II and to pray for peace so hopefully the gruesome horrors of war don't return to our peaceful isles, or anywhere else. The oldest of these supplicants were residents here in those dark war-torn days; most that come now are their descendants. Not too many years ago there were two planeloads. Many have passed.

The prayers and rituals that accompany the Okinawan memorial services on Saipan and Tinian are emotionally stirring, and foster contemplation. Even the traditional costumed dances are transcendental rather than just entertaining. The individual prayers offered one by one by all in attendance bring the memorial service to a very personal level.

A very strong moral driving force is behind the expensive and time-consuming logistics that enable these kind people to come here year after year. We should thank them. We should emulate their faith in the power of human good to win out over the powers of evil, force and violence that war brings. World peace is worth working for but is a difficult goal to get to. Those who come here each year to remember the past have that goal in mind and look to the future as well as they work toward that end.

Clean the glass + & -

Transparency can be a good thing. It can point out hidden conflicts of interest (hidden to the public but not the OPA who can actually do something about it). It promotes a sense of honesty in government, which could certainly use a hefty shot of good PR considering most people see government as tainted, if not outright crooked. Transparency can also polish the, rightfully, dismal reputation of many elected individuals and appointed government workers. Maybe it can help us see how Presidents Clinton and Obama go into office as upper middle-class citizens and came out with hundreds of millions in their pockets. Trump, already a billionaire, will undoubtedly come out with a bigger

SOUR GRAPES

By BRUCE A. BATEMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.

pile as well, as did his presidential and legislative predecessors going far back in time.

Out here the numbers are much smaller, but the graft has the same roots—greed and power—and the results are the same, a loss of confidence in elected officials and, ultimately, in the government itself.

But there is a dark side to this concept of transparency too. It acts as yet another deterrent—like low wages—that prevents talented, educated, well-meaning people from seeking public office. Privacy in a person's business dealings is often necessary and especially so for a successful person with more than one business interest going at one time. In a small island economy like ours, you will note that diversity in investments and businesses is a hallmark of our most prominent citizens. They don't have, and they don't want to have, all their eggs in one basket. They own and operate a number of different businesses in completely different industries to spread the risk. Privacy in those businesses and transactions is essential and is guaranteed by our CNMI Constitution and by the U.S. Constitution.

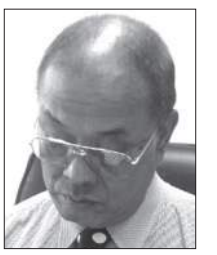
Transparency does not change the root motivations of those who want to wield elected executive or legislative political power. If someone volunteers to run for office, watch them closely. Ask why. If someone is willing to spend hundreds of thousands to get a job that pays tens of thousands, grab hold of your wallet, and if someone wants to wield supreme executive power by actively running for a political unit's highest office, they should be immediately disqualified from doing so. That is a job that should be forced on someone—for a short defined period of time—and with a tug at their civic duty heartstring. Then they should be sent back into private life with our thanks for doing a thankless job for a couple of years. Alas, the system now in place turns them instead into career politicians who become career appointed staff

See GLASS on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

NMI investments

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The exit of Japanese investments from here is an alarming phenomenon that must be visited forthwith given the consequence of dire economic contraction it would render the NMI.

Our Nippon friends were here before, during, and after the war, bringing their wealth for investment purposes. The opportunity was there for real-time partnership but faded in negligence and apparent indifference. Imagine its benefits if more investors from Asia's wealthiest country joined hands in partnership with our people.

As small a country it may be, it is an economic giant in the global village with sufficient investment funds for island nations throughout the entire Pacific Basin.

With an economy as sturdy as climatic shift in tropical weather, what else is there for us as a matter of economic foundation beyond mini-tourism? Have we done right planning this sector to our benefit beyond "que sera?"

It could mean revenue degeneration driven deeper by a prolonged stagnant economy and indifference of the business community. How much would be the loss? I'm sure it's in the billions of dollars. Is it something we could rebuild on our own?

Investments infuse funds for business operations and employment. It's an opportunity to build upon a new business venture however small it may be. Its success contributes a healthy sum in terms of taxes spent on services and jobs.

Negative

While this isn't too hard a concept to fathom it's unimaginable its effects on the local economy. It may not be visible now but it would eventually deal the NMI serious financial shortfall all the way to the family purse.

Sayonara hopped on an airplane and headed home permanently hardly noticed by Da Big Boysis. Amidst it all, we boast ignorant demeanor as if we understand the economic implications of investment exit. It means far less! Did you get that pal?

Mindful

Either we're in self-denial or completely ignorant of the implications of Nippon investment exit. There seems to be the lack of depth of perception to see this phenomenon descending to our eventual demise. It's the jovial bunch singing "Happy Days Are Here" when the entire house is on fire! Or am I being presumptuous?

Have we done our homework to figure out in dollar figures how much is the investment exit? I'm sure it isn't pennies, nickels and dimes but more like billions of that would create a fiscal void we can never fill. Is this okay with the nimble-minded elected elite?

It's that time once more where we missed substantive issues altogether while the choir boys sing, *Beyond the Reef*.

Recession

It's asinine national the agenda by national Democrats to derail a soaring economy across the fruited plain that grants fellow citizens jobs and more income to take home to their families.

Why place greater prominence on your failure to improve their lot by substituting it with definite destruction? Wouldn't a recession forcibly send them reeling in the marshland of abject poverty?

That the Donald has succeeded where you persistently failed to improve the livelihood of fellow citizens is not a reason to ensure recession to satisfy cheap and shallow political agenda.

That our fellow citizens have seen brighter tomorrows with jobs and more income is more the reason to search how else could you improve their wellbeing.

Foresight

Magoo argues his wishful thinking about the plus side of Nippon investment leaving. We return to what it used to be—subsistence farming and fishing—like it was done a long time ago.

I grew up when this community relied on both as a way of life. We did our share at the farm and the sea. The powerful culture of sharing helped many families muddle through bad times when jobs were scarce here in the early sixties. It was a simple subsistence lifestyle then.

But there were major influences in our long journey. Today, there's the digital age where most work is done via a hi-tech laptop. Amidst the apparent lack of a unified goal perhaps this is as good a time to venture bringing all sectors together for some meaningful and thoughtful planning. We owe it to ourselves!

The issue requires leadership not the tons of ordinary followership defined conveniently as such. I've quietly paced this issue going on two years now. There's nothing up that alley! Obviously, the most relevant query is the future of our people and it requires more than convenient *"hafa adai."*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DPS commissioner owes more than an apology

Rep. Ed Propst needs to again be commended for standing up against what's wrong. I applaud his response to the DPS commissioner's press release to what was a joke deliberately taken out of context to tarnish a good name. I too "was appalled and dismayed" over the commissioner's inconsiderate ignorance and not taking the expected courtesy of clarifying or contacting Mr. Propst before attacking him so inaccurately and publicly.

The reason why the commissioner's press release so inappropriately and incorrectly criticized Mr. Propst for a joke made by someone else and relayed by many more is clear. First and foremost, there's a lot more behind it than an intentional misinterpreted joke, and also more than the commissioner behind what was sent through him but not completely by him as I've never before seen a response from him. The not-funny joke is in who initiated it, how those people hold official positions, and what they do and don't do in those.

The joke Mr. Propst passed on was twisted to attack his character and reputation. That backfired. Mr. Propst's immediate correction to the commissioner's inaccuracies and inappropriate actions shows his leadership and courage to continue to stand up against intimidation and what's wrong. It also shows that others can and should stand up and support him in those efforts. Others also responded below the *Marianas Variety*'s "Meme taken 'out of context" article with their low opinions of the commissioner. Everyone should read that article and its comments to understand what Mr. Propst stands for and against, and how people feel about our commissioner.

For many years the commissioner has been asked but has yet to respond to why he's not addressing what should be DPS priorities. Why he made this joke a priority is more of an issue of who also responded through him. Responding to the commissioner's blunder is another example of Mr. Propst's responsible track record, while the commissioner's improper and unfitting accusations shows his irresponsibility and are more appropriately suited at who made them: "low moral character…, undermines the hard work by police officers and law enforcement officials…, we should expect more from an official…, has a moral obligation to provide solutions for our community but instead perpetuate a culture of fear and mistrust…, unbecoming of an official…, divisive and unproductive toward the shared goal of bettering our community…" Yes, undoubtedly more than the commissioner is behind what exemplifies them and such a disgraceful and despicable low blow maneuver.

DPS does not "condemn" Mr. Propst, and the commissioner should be criticized for trying to hide behind that blanket statement. Mr. Propst has always been a strong advocate of DPS and other law enforcement and responders. He recognizes and supports the hard work they put in and the challenges and risks they face to keep CNMI safe, and he works for them. "Propst works for you" is not just a campaign slogan like the way other politicians sling empty slogans and promises. Mr. Propst deeply cares about the CNMI and his dedicative commitment, hard work, and many accomplishments to keep it on the right track are on record. His efforts to correct what's wrong and do what's right goes far above and beyond what could be expected of his position and the very low and limited salary he receives and takes from that, especially compared to other elected officials and all he gives and does in return. It's also the reason others that prefer to not be answerable try to slander his character.

The fact is that Mr. Propst should be recognized as the most trustworthy and righteous elected official Saipan has had, who diligently keeps less than responsible people accountable. Anyone who witnessed how Mr. Propst worked with PSS and now follows the accomplishments he's making as an elected official understands his heart is in helping the CNMI. Anyone with common sense and awareness should understand other officials are much more self-serving and lack the integrity to do what's right or address what's not.

The DPS commissioner and other high-level power people, whether in government or business, have reason to try to disparage Mr. Propst and to avoid accountability. The proverbial saying "power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely" means that, as power increases, moral sense diminishes. We're seeing that here with those who continues to overstep and abuse their positions and adversely target and intimidate those that question their ethics and actions.

While it's clear why the press release was written, what's unclear is who else was behind it and what they do that they're not supposed to and don't do that they are. Anyone that doesn't understand who is personally benefiting from what is happening needs to wake up and speak up, or support Mr. Propst for doing so. Too much of what you're led to believe is not what it appears. Understanding what's behind the press release; and all Mr. Propst has looked into, exposed, and continues to try to correct; and making that connection should inspire you to be more aware of what's happening. The press release is more than to defame another government official who is much more upfront and forthright in serving the CNMI rather than being self-serving, it's an attack on justice and fairness and those that fight for it. More people need to be more like Mr. Propst and do like him. Mr. Propst does right by identifying and trying to change what's wrong. More need to feel less intimidated, targeted, or influenced and speak up and /or support those that do rather than supporting those that should be working for you but don't.

Those behind the commissioner press release owe Mr. Propst more than just an apology; they owe accountability to the CNMI.

Paul Plunkett
Dandan, Saipan

GLASS

From Page 14

and "consultants" once their time in office is over.

Don't fool yourself. This has nothing to do with party politics. This is deep-seated human psychology and human weakness showing through the thin veneer of civilization and social mores (no, not eels). One party is no better in curbing the excesses than another. That's why governments need to be overseen and constrained by their citizens. Without that public participation, so-called free societies are doomed to failure once their bureaucracies become big enough for citizens to vote themselves a living rather than work for one. Transparency can help stave off the wolves for a while.

You decide whether to support laws and regulations that promote or force transparency. OPA or similar agencies can't solve the problem. Who watches the watchers?

Thanks for reading Sour Grapes!

Next week we'll look at how the Legislature sometimes micromanages the Saipan zoning process and sometimes overrides it completely, for personal or political reasons. Not a pretty picture.

Transparency is not about restoring trust in institutions. Transparency is the politics of managing mistrust.

—Ivan Krastev

I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity.

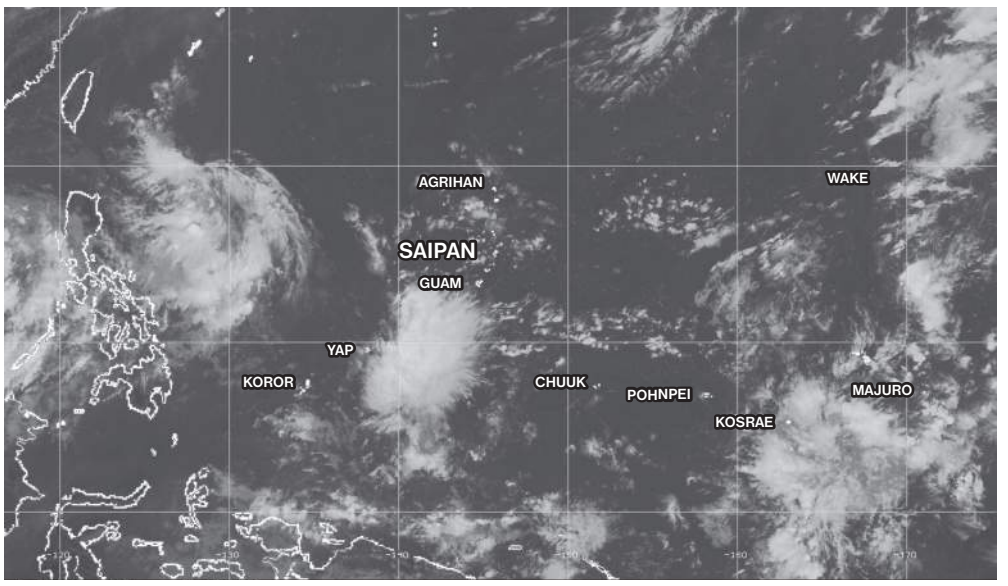
—Dwight D. Eisenhower

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. east winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
88° 77°	89° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:45 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Easterly trade-winds prevailing across the Marianas through the weekend. Models depict only isolated showers and lower deep-layer moisture projections agree. Winds will be between 10 to 15 mph with even lighter winds the first half of next week. Models show a surface trough developing just south of the Marianas next week. This trough…increasing deep layer moisture and low-level convergence suggest that showers may increase next week. Uncertainty is still high so an increase in showers has not been added to the forecast.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorm	82° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 46°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 63°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 78°
London	Mostly Cloudy	75° / 55°
Los Angeles	Thunderstorm	84° / 67°
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°
Melbourne	Sunny	63° / 52°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
New York	Sunny	87° / 68°
Osaka	Thunderstorm	82° / 75°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 63°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	81° / 72°
Rome	Thunderstorm	90° / 70°
Salem	Sunny	91° / 65°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	68° / 57°
Seoul	Sunny	84° / 63°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Washington, DC	Sunny	88° / 69°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:13 AM	LOW TIDE	1.09
6:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.18
1:37 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.25
8:18 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.12

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:31 AM	6:32 PM	-
Saturday	6:35 AM	7:22 PM	-
Sunday	7:37 AM	8:10 PM	-
Monday	8:37 AM	8:56 PM	-
Tuesday	9:36 AM	9:42 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear friends (within PSS)

It is my sincere hope that, for purposes of this email, all of you for whom it is intended can separate any personal friendships or relationships we may have from your respective roles as fiduciaries in charge of our Public School System and my capacity as a frustrated parent of kids previously due to enter San Vicente Elementary School this school year and as a concerned, long-time member of the San Vicente Village community.

I received notice just last week that SVES (and several other schools) would be opening with double sessions, meaning less than a half a day of school for each student. I've since received further information that it will likely be for the duration of the year, if not more. All of this coming as a result of Super Typhoon Yutu and the damage left in its wake nearly 10 months ago.

Meanwhile (in the time since that horrendous storm), there have been ongoing construction/renovation projects within PSS that have no bearing on whether or not 100% of our classrooms will be ready for the new school year. And, somehow, we've been able to mobilize an impressive tent-city with solid concrete footings and paved walkways to relocate Hopwood in its entirety, but we can't change tin roofing systems to get certain classrooms at certain schools back to usable condition. Why is that? Not a rhetorical question. Why is that?

I've heard in part that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is to blame for the delays—either that it has not provided sufficient funding or that it has not approved certain work orders. If that is the case, then maybe it would ease some of our concerns to get some concrete numbers as to what FEMA has provided or to be made aware of what steps PSS has taken and will take to facilitate said work orders immediately. Is FEMA to blame? And, if FEMA is to blame for the delays, then who are calling out FEMA? How are they doing it? And why haven't they been heard? Again, real questions that call for real answers. I suspect our governor, Delegate Kilili, or any of our political leaders would be happy to push a few buttons.

Still, whatever those answers may be, we cannot simply wait for a response, we need to seek them out or craft our own. Bear in mind that San Vicente and, I suspect, many of our older schools, started out with little more than a hut in times of need. We are in times of need again.

Perhaps there needs to be greater public outcry? And we know with certainty that activism is live and well in the CNMI, so where are the activists against broken schools? Where is the outrage? Am I the only one who feels like our system owes our kids more than half-day sessions? If ever we needed people to bang on doors or stand on soap boxes with bullhorns in tow, now is that time. FEMA, our local leadership, and whoever else has the authority to make the needed changes have to acknowledge that our kids are being shortchanged and that we should not simply wait for the bureaucracy to unfold.

There needs to be a greater sense of urgency in our efforts to get all of our classrooms and our campuses ready for the new school year. It would also be nice to see a greater sense of ownership (or sense of pride) in your responsibility to get that done.

The fact that amid the massive influx of federal support after Yutu and motivated volunteers all around, we still have unfinished roofs at our schools suggests one of two things in my mind: (1) That there is an embarrassing level of nonchalance, if not complacency, among the people responsible for our schools or (2) That there is something inherently wrong with our Public School System's system. Either way, the people on this string have to figure it out and fix it. You still have weeks before the scheduled start date for our schools.

Rome may not have been built in a day, but a tin roof can be changed in a week. What say you?

Jim Rayphand
San Vicente, Saipan

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB19-CHCC/IT-MIHI-002
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 06, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM

"IT EQUIPMENT - COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/MATERNAL & INFANT HEALTH INITIATIVE"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/INVITATION TO BID (ITB) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
PROJECT NO.: CPA-RFP-011-19

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2019 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES THE SCOPE OF WORK AND OTHER CONSIDERATION IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING AUGUST 30, 2019 AT THE CPA ADMIN OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARRIVAL BUILDING.

PROPOSERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES OF THE PROPOSALS TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: **"PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-011-19"**. PROPOSERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS PROPOSAL.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020, §40-50-1015, & §40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, FINANCIAL INTEREST, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: _____

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Better Together

Offer available to Saipan Consumer subscribers only and valid till September 30, 2019. Promotional discount valid for 12-months of service. Standard rates will apply 12-months from date of activation. FREE router value of $49.50. While supplies last. Acceptable Use Policy applies. Some conditions apply. Call or visit Gualo Rai store for more details. Winners' images may be used for promotional use.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vote buying?

I write an open letter to the Office of the Public Auditor, the Commonwealth Election Commission, and the Office of the Attorney General on a matter which warrants attention prior to the next election in the CNMI as it relates to the threat of vote buying of our elected positions.

It has been reported that Rep. Edwin Propst has taken outside employment at a local car dealership while remaining a CNMI legislator. I have had family members who sold cars for a living, and on hearing this, I was extremely worried about the effects such employment would have on the sanctity of our electoral process.

It is common knowledge that car dealers sell cars often below the listed value for customers to garner a deal. Dealers are allowed this opportunity as it generates greater sales for the company. This technique is often at the discretion of the dealer and their supervisor.

The concern I have is that every reduction in price on a vehicle is essentially money given to the car buyer, whether it be $1 or $2,000. When Rep. Propst discounts a car, is he doing so as a car dealer or as an elected official who relies on those customers to continue to vote for him? Does he give better deals to those who support him or those he wishes to support him? Can Ed Propst the car dealer be separated from Ed Propst the representative?

Whatever the situation is, the officials who maintain the ethics of our government should investigate who Rep. Propst has sold cars to, how much did they purchase the vehicle, and the reasons behind any discounts he has provided to them.

We would not tolerate an elected official giving a potential voter $10. Will we allow an elected official freely giving away thousands of dollars in exchange for votes this coming election?

I urge the Public Auditor, the Election Commission, and the Attorney General's Office to look into this matter before our next election is bought and paid for by someone like this.

Brian Teregeyo Romolor
Pittsburgh, PA

DESTRUCTION

From Page 14

lion). Now both countries, upset that deforestation has risen sharply under Bolsonaro, have decided to cut back. This is unfortunate, though understandable. The Amazon Fund, or some similar successor, needs to shift its focus from rewarding Brazil for past successes to incentivizing more efforts to stop deforestation.

Pressure also could be applied by the European Union, via its new trade agreement with Brazil, by reducing purchases of beef and soybeans. The United States could act similarly. But our nation's leaders, engaged in environmental attacks of their own at home, have been silent on the rape of the Amazon.

The G-7 leaders announced another agreement with other countries in the Amazon basin on long-term forest protection and reforestation, and said it might be presented to the UN next month. That's a good step. But the two deals were unveiled after a session on climate change that was skipped by President Donald Trump, the only world leader at the summit not to attend. Afterward, Trump insisted he was an environmentalist, a claim defied by his own actions and those of his administration. Our nation and the world would benefit if he matched his words with deeds.

The Amazon is too valuable to lose or shrink. It gives us air we breathe and medicines that keep us healthy, and absorbs carbon that's overheating the Earth. We all have a stake in keeping it alive.

(c)2019 Newsday

BACK TO... SCHOOL
Mental Health Tips
Heading back to school is an exciting time for children and families. Along with the excitement, there may be some difficulty adjusting to the changes that come with a new school year. Take a look at a few tips that may help you start the new school year on the right foot.
1 Establish a routine
Get back on a school routine a week or two before school starts. Establish a bedtime and wake up time to ensure your child develops adequate sleep patterns. Incorporate some scheduling into the day (for example, regular quiet reading time) to start easing them back into a more organized and controlled schedule.
2 Talk to your children
It's always good for parents to sit down and talk to their children about what concerns they might have about going back to school. Talk about the positives, too! It is normal for a child to feel nervous and scared. By talking about concerns and positives, it will give them confidence. What are children excited about? What do they look forward to this school year?
3 Ease worries
If your child is nervous about a new school, classroom, or teacher, talk them to visit the school before the first day. Show them where they'll be dropped off and picked up each day and talk about their daily school schedule. Older children may find it useful to get their schedules in advance.
4 Monitor social media
Keep an eye on older children's social media accounts. What are you seeing on their Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram? What are your children seeing that they might be nervous or anxious about? Restrict your teen from text messaging in bed after bedtime.
5 Foster positive friendships
For kids who are worried about friendships or loneliness, encourage them to reconnect with a friend before the start of the school. Schedule a play date before school starts and help them make plans to see each other during recess or lunch on the first day of school. Start the school year with positive relationships that will help buffer some of the less positive experiences.
6 Create homework strategies
For children who are not academically inclined, the onset of school may signal a time of increased stress for both students and parents. Work with your child to develop a plan for getting homework done and assignments turned in on time. Make a plan to touch base with teachers regularly. Set an after-school routine, such as bathroom breaks, snacks and homework before playtime.
7 Don't stress, parents
Parents have their own set of worries. Talking to other parents can be helpful, as can getting as much information as you can. Review your child's schedule. Set up a time to meet your child's teacher or school principal and figure out a way to communicate that works well for both of you. Organization and communication with your child can help start the school year on the right foot at school and at home.
https://www.multicare.org/news/back-to-school-7-mental-health-tips-for-kids-yourself/
FOR MORE INFORMATION
Community Guidance Center - System of Care
SAIPAN: Tel. No: (670) 664.4604/05 to 09
Address: San Antonio, Saipan (former CHCC dispensary)
ROTA: Tel. No: (670) 532.6463 • Address: Sinapalo II, Rota
This project was supported by Grant 5U79SM062447-04 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC). The contents above are solely the responsibility of CHCC and do not necessarily represent the official views of SAMHSA.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-DOL/WIA-123
SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 06, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.
"SYMMETRICAL BANDWIDTH INTERNET SERVICES FOR A MINIMUM OF 20Mbps OR MORE COMING IN & A MINIMUM OF 20Mbps OR MORE GOING OUT CAPACITY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY"
COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.
THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.
THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.
/S/ VICKY BENAVENTE
SECRETARY OF LABOR
/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-DOL/WIA-124
SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 TIME: 09:30 A.M.
"CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY"
COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.
THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.
THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.
/S/ VICKY BENAVENTE
SECRETARY OF LABOR
/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Faith, Hope and KARIDAT
A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
ONE (1) SHELTER WORKER
For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat Main Office at Old Sister Remedios Bldg.
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: Complete application form, copy of diploma, resume, current police clearance and a copy of valid driver's license.
NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.
CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019 AT 4:00PM

Business

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participants of an export training workshop hosted by the Department of Commerce pose for a group shot at the Kanoa Resort.

Export training workshop completed

The CNMI Department of Commerce, with the support of the Commonwealth Development Authority, recently hosted an export training workshop, highlighting international exporting basics with a focus on the Japanese market.

Southeast Asia for Global Risk Mitigation Foundation director Chuck Lopez conducted the training.

Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman noted that the focus was on the global supply chain, trade war opportunities, and tailoring products for a specific foreign market.

"We encourage eligible small businesses to leverage this grant which can help propel your business into the global scene. International exporting is a tool that can help increase revenue streams in growing your business. There were a large number of participants in attendance ranging from established business owners to individuals learning more about exporting so any other interested business can contact our office for more information," Rabauliman said.

This training opportunity is made possible by the State Trade Expansion Program federal grant. The CNMI State Trade Expansion Program is a state-federal partnership funded in part through a grant from the Small Business Administration to provide financial assistance to qualified CNMI small businesses for international marketing efforts in beginning exporting or market expansion. This assistance includes website design, translation of marketing materials, product packaging compliance, and export training workshops. A select number of businesses can also qualify to attend a foreign trade show funded by the STEP grant.

A special live-stream provided by the Northern Marianas College was made available to residents on Tinian and Rota in collaboration with the Tinian and Rota mayor's offices through Commerce's respective resident directors. A recording of the workshop will be made available through NMC's website.

For more information about the CNMI STEP program, contact the CNMI Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3065 ext. 125 or email cnmi.step@commerce.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(25) **Heavy Equipment Operators**, $8.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT. Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Operate one or several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concrete or other hard surface pavement. May repair and maintain equipment in addition to other duties. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Locate underground services, such as pipes or wires, prior to beginning work. Monitor operations to ensure that health and safety standards are met. Adjust hand wheels and depress pedals to control attachments, such as blades, buckets, scrapers, or swing booms.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in operating and controlling power construction equipment and in monitoring of gauges, dials or other indicators to make sure that the equipment is working properly.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

IN THE SUPERIOR OF THE COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANTONIO NAVIA SACAYAN Petitioner, vs. Tessie Macasling Garay Respondent,) FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-0318) SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 445 BOX 10001 CHINATOWN SAIPAN, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 24th day of July, 2019.
/s/ Clerk of Court

Back to School
RAFFLE 2019
TACO BELL
PRIZES
1 WINNER OF COMPUTER TABLE AND BOOKCASE
2 WINNERS OF $100 ATHLETE'S FOOT GIFT CERTIFICATE
taf the athlete's foot
Promo period
August 30. 2019
to
September 29. 2019
Raffle drawing will be held on September 30. 2018
HOW TO ENTER & WIN
Come eat at KFC & Taco Bell and get a chance to win exciting prizes with every single or accumulated food purchase worth $25 or more
For further inquiries, please visit KFC & Taco Bell Saipan or check us on www.facebook.com/kfctacobell670
NEW!
TRIPLE DOUBLE CRUNCHWRAP
pepsi
DOUBLE THE BEEF
TRIPLE THE LAYER

OxyContin maker negotiating settlement worth reported $12B

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)— Purdue Pharma would devote its profits to cleaning up the devastation wrought by opioids, and the controlling Sackler family would be out, under a $10 billion to $12 billion nationwide settlement taking shape at the negotiating table, according to published reports Wednesday.

The agreement, if it comes to pass, would resolve more than 2,000 lawsuits brought against the maker of OxyContin by state and local governments.

Under the proposal on the table, Purdue Pharma would file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and transform itself into a "public benefit trust corporation," with all profits from drug sales and other proceeds going to the plaintiffs, news reports said, citing a document outlining the tentative agreement.

The Wall Street Journal said the arrangement would stay in place for seven to 10 years and would be overseen by trustees named by the bankruptcy court. Details of the proposed settlement were also reported by NBC and The New York Times.

The Sacklers would give up ownership of Purdue Pharma and contribute $3 billion of their own money toward the total, the reports said. They would also sell another pharmaceutical company, Mundipharma, which would add $1.5 billion to the settlement.

In addition, Purdue Pharma would supply its addiction treatment drugs free to the public.

It was not immediately clear whether the reconstituted company would continue to sell opioids. Purdue Pharma also makes laxatives, antiseptics and dietary supplements.

In a statement, the Stamford, Connecticut-based company did not confirm any of the details but said it sees little good in years of "wasteful litigation and appeals."

"Purdue believes a constructive global resolution is the best path forward, and the company is actively working with the state attorneys general and other plaintiffs to achieve this outcome," it said.

Paul Farrell Jr., a lead plaintiffs' lawyer representing local governments in the negotiations going on in Cleveland, said all sides remain under a gag order: "All we can confirm is that we are in active settlement discussions with Purdue."

Attorneys general representing several states also confirmed the accelerated negotiations.

"Our mission here has always been clear—make Purdue Pharma and the other manufacturers and distributors pay for what they did to Pennsylvania and its people, and put the Sackler family out of the opioid business for good," said Jacklin Rhoads, a spokeswoman for Pennsylvania's attorney general.

While the U.S. has many "public benefit corporations," creating one to settle a civil action would be a novel approach, said John Coffee, a law professor and director of the Center on Corporate Governance at Columbia Law School.

In general, public benefit corporations have charters that dictate that they operate not to maximize profits for shareholders but to benefit some other purpose, such as a charity or research, he said. Coffee said that he has never heard specifically of a "public benefit corporation trust" and that it sounded like a hybrid—a business run by trustees.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

08/30/2019
Notice for Public Comment
Reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

Program Year/ IDIS No.:	Program:	Activity Name:	Subrecipient:	Approved Budget:	Proposed Reprogramming Amount:	Proposed Revised Project Budget:	Current IDIS Funded Amount:
2018/691	CDBG	Rehabilitation of the Sinapalo Children's Park Roof	Office of the Rota Mayor	$287,212.40	($96,000.00)	$191,212.40	$287,212.40
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:		**$287,212.40**	**($96,000.00)**		
2017/676	CDBG	Koblerville Youth Learning Center Expansion and Enhancement Project	Youth Affairs Office/Governor's Office	$474,640.00	$96,000.00	$570,640.00	$474,640.00
		Total Reprogrammed to Activities:			**$96,000.00**		

Our agency through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that we publish a "Public Notice" on reprogramming of funds over $50,001.00. Therefore, comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central office located in Garapan, Saipan on or before September 30, 2019, no later than 9:00 a.m. You may contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer at (670)234-6866/9447.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-028

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFIER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi Clarifier Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and replacement or repair of the effluent launder box; removal of the old circular clarifier mechanism and sections of the effluent launder box; replacement of the RFP weirs and scum baffle, installation of a new outer scum baffle; installation of new area lighting, wires, and conduit, and disconnect boxes; installation of a new process water spray system for foam control. The work shall include the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier; routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period; and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$100.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on August 22, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-028, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time.

Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

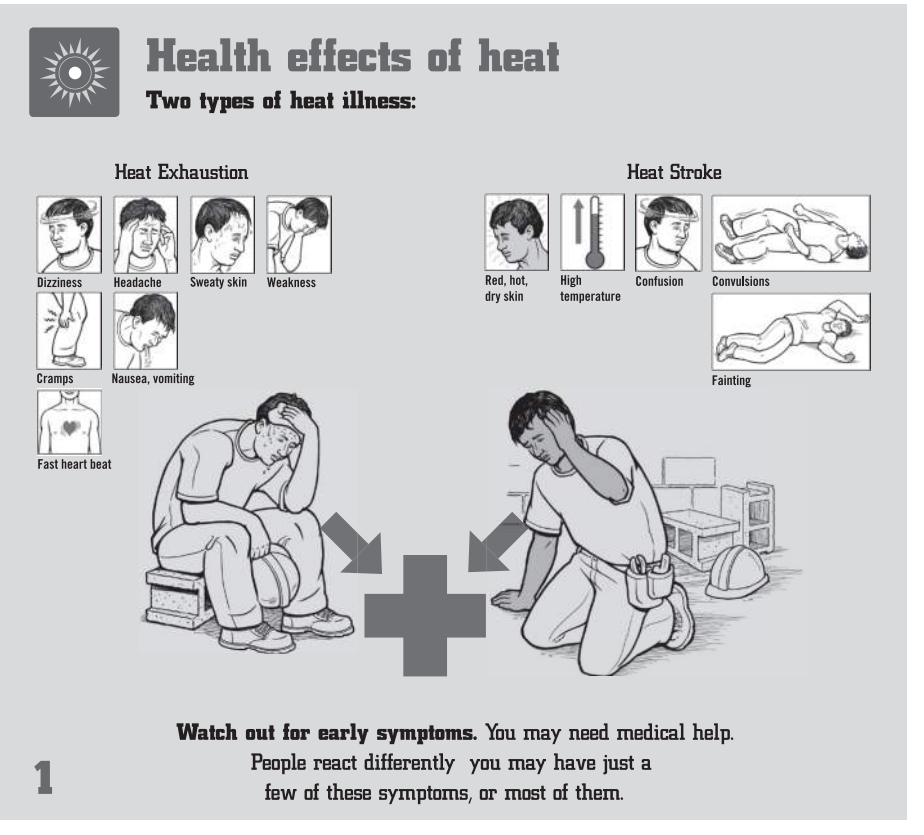
CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Labor

Contact the CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation Program for your FREE consultation services.



For more information, please call CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation office at
Tel.: 664-3154/5/6/7 or
Email: Wallace Chong: wchongdolosha@gmail.com
Sidney Camacho: scamachodolosha@gmail.com

This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Nation

Hurricane heads for Florida after brushing Caribbean islands

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Hurricane Dorian moved out over open waters early Thursday after doing limited damage in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, though forecasters warned it was gaining strength and probably would grow into a dangerous storm while heading toward the northern Bahamas and Florida's east coast.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Dorian was expected to strengthen into a dangerous Category 3 hurricane as it stayed well to the east of the southeastern and central Bahamas over the next two days. The forecast called for the storm to pass near or over the northern Bahamas on Saturday and close in on Florida by Sunday afternoon.

The storm was a Category 1 hurricane Wednesday when it swirled through the islands of the northeastern Caribbean, causing power outages and flooding in places but doing no major damage.

"We're happy because there are no damages to report," said William Solís, the mayor of the small Puerto Rican island of Culebra. He said only one community lost power.

Dorian caused an islandwide blackout in St. Thomas and St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and scattered power outages in St. Croix, government spokesman Richard Motta said. In addition, the storm downed trees and at least one electric pole in St. Thomas, he said, adding that there were no reports of major flooding.

"We are grateful that it wasn't a stronger storm," he said.

There were no reports of serious damage in the British Virgin Islands, where Gov. Augustus Jaspert said crews were already clearing roads and inspecting infrastructure by late Wednesday afternoon.

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of August 30, 2019

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Department of Public Works	07/30/2019 RSm-2019-0730	Removal of Debris	Talakhaya, Rota	Shoreline	Approved 08/22/2019*
2. Tinian Hairui Real Estate Co., LLC dba Xingsha Hotel	03/15/2019 TMS-2019-X-020	Xinghsa Hotel	San Jose, Tinian	Major Siting-New	Public Hearing 08/13/2019*
3. Pelley Boat Charters, Inc.	08/12/2019 SPI-2019-X-050	Drydock	North Sea Plane Ramp, Saipan	Port & Industrial	Approved 08/26/2019*
4. AIC Marianas	08/13/2019 SW-2019-X-051	Island Wide Waterline Repairs As Teo, Capitol Hill, and Talafofo	As Teo, Talofofo, & Capitol Hill, Saipan	Wetlands	Under Review*
5. Smart Star Inc. dba Blue Bay Diving Club	08/13/2019 SLR-2018-X-129-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	Laolao Beach & Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/21/2019
6. Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc.	08/19/2019 SPI-2019-X-052	Drydock	Southern Seaplane Ramp Lower Base, Saipan	Port & Industrial	Approved 08/21/2019*
7. MP Holding LLC dba Saipan Vegas	08/19/2019 SMS-2017-X-098 Amendment 2019-1	Parking Lot Extension	Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Major Siting-Existing	Under Review
8. Light Star Corporation	08/20/2019 SLR-2019-X-053	Snorkeling	Grotto, Saipan Lagoon, and Outside Mañagaha	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/26/2019*
9. Young International Corporation dba Gaja	08/20/2019 SLR-2019-X-054	Snorkeling	Grotto, Laulau Beach, Obyan and Micro Beach	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/26/2019*
10. Changjiang Corporation dba Eagle Travel Agency	08/22/2109 SLR-2018-X-144-R2	Snorkeling	Mañagaha & Grotto	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
11. N Corporation	08/23/2019 SLR-2019-X-055	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
12. Indigenous Affairs Office	08/27/2019 SSm-2019-X-056	Chamorro Thatch House	Susupe, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved 08/28/2019*
13. Triple J Saipan Inc.	08/27/2019 SS-2019-X-057	Land clearing	Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review*
14. Latte Marine Construction Inc.	08/27/2019 SLRm-2019-X-058	In-water Maintenance	Charlie Dock, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. EPHREM S. TAIMANAO and LUCIA M. TAIMANAO, dba JOE AND SONS ENTERPRISES, Defendants. — Civil Action No. 18-0018 (R) — AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION AND JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on February 15, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Bank of Guam from Defendants Ephrem S. Taimanao and Lucia M. Taimanao, dba Joe and Sons Enterprises, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **October 3, 2019**, at **11:00 A.M**, at the **Rota Courthouse Lobby**, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 345 R 200, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 05, the original of which was recorded 10 MAY 1984 as Document No. 84-751 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan, shall be sold to satisfy the foreclosure judgment entered by the Court.

Terms and Conditions of Sale:

1. Public Sale. The auction shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the action sale:
   a. to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.
5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to Plaintiff Bank of Guam.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer. A copy of the appraisal report and other documents pertaining to the mortgaged property to be sold at public auction is available upon request. If necessary, a copy of the appraisal report will be provided to the Rota Bank of Guam Manager for Rota, for on-island bidders.

DATED this 6th day of August, 2019.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. EPHREM S. TAIMANAO and LUCIA M. TAIMANAO, dba JOE AND SONS ENTERPRISES, Defendants. — Civil Action No. 18-0019 (R) — AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION AND JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on February 15, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Bank of Guam from Defendants Ephrem S. Taimanao and Lucia M. Taimanao, dba Joe and Sons Enterprises, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **October 3, 2019**, at **11:00 AM**, at the **Rota Courthouse Lobby**, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 010 R 20, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 010 R 00 dated March 06, 1974, as Document No. 3438 at Land Registry, Saipan, which was recorded on June 17, 1997 as Document No. 97-1467 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale:

1. Public Sale. The auction shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the action sale:
   a. to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.
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6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer. A copy of the appraisal report and other documents pertaining to the mortgaged property to be sold at public auction is available upon request. If necessary, a copy of the appraisal report will be provided to the Rota Bank of Guam Manager for Rota, for on-island bidders.

DATED this 6th day of August, 2019.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Asia

Unions target Cathay Pacific airline in Hong Kong protest

HONG KONG (AP)—Trade union members in Hong Kong rallied Wednesday against the city's flagship Cathay Pacific Airways, which has fired several employees in the past two weeks after coming under pressure from China over their links to pro-democracy protests.

Cathay's situation encapsulates the very fears that sparked the protests—that China is encroaching on the freedoms and separate legal system that Hong Kong maintains under a "one country, two systems" framework.

The Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions said that 20 Cathay employees have been dismissed or forced to resign, including pilots, cabin crew, ground staff and managers. It called the rally after Cathay Dragon, a Cathay group airline, fired cabin crew union head Rebecca Sy last week.

Sy, who says she was given no reason for her dismissal, said her firing sends a clear message to the people in Hong Kong that it's not about whether you break the law but simply whether you are doing what you have been told to do.

"Where is the freedom of speech or democracy?" she said. "Is Hong Kong really dying or is it already dead?"

Cathay has confirmed the dismissal of several employees in the past two weeks. It has given various reasons, such as a pilot who misused company information or another who is in legal proceedings, without mentioning the protests. One Cathay pilot was charged with rioting during a protest.

In a statement late Wednesday, Cathay said it cannot comment on individual cases, but it takes into account all relevant factors when determining whether or not to dismiss an employee, including regulatory requirements.

China's civil aviation authority announced on Aug. 9 that Cathay employees who "support or take part in illegal protests, violent actions, or overly radical behavior" were banned from staffing flights to mainland China, and that the airline must submit the identification details of crew members flying to the mainland or over mainland airspace for approval.

"We fully support the upholding of the Basic Law and all the rights and freedoms afforded by it," Cathay Director of Corporate Affairs James Tong said, referring to the constitution that governs the semiautonomous territory. "At the same time, we are also required to adhere to all of our regulatory duties, including those prescribed by the authorities in mainland China. The airline must do this; there is no ground for compromise."

Cathay CEO Rupert Hogg resigned in mid-August to take responsibility following recent events, the airline said.

A few hundred union members rallied in central Hong Kong. They held signs that read "Revoke termination" and "Stop terrorizing CX staff," referring to the airline by its code. Under the slogans, the normally green Cathay logo was colored red with a golden star added to it, mimicking the Chinese flag.

In Celebration of his new life

†Glenn Stuart Pangelinan Calvo

Born on April 19, 1973

Passed away on August 18, 2019 in Idaho

He now joins his loving family:

Father: †Gregorio Songao Calvo

Paternal Grandparents: †Roberto Taitano Calvo and †Calistra Songao Calvo

Paternal Reared Grandparents: †Felix L and Laura D. Calvo

Maternal Grandparents: †Joaquin Sablan and †Magdalena Terlaje Pangelinan

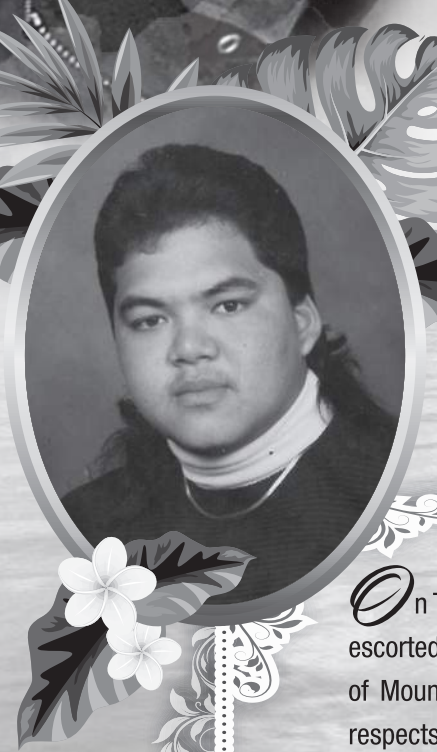
His peaceful spirit and loving memory will live forever in the hearts of his loving:

Children: Glenn Stuart Calvo, Jr. & Catherine Aldan Reyes
Aprileen Joanna Mendiola & Ryan Baker

Mother: Evelyn Julia Terlaje Pangelinan Calvo

Siblings: Gregory Stephen P. & Carmen S. Calvo (Chad Derek, Brittany/Dane (Kaiya), Sierra, Clayton, Gregory, Jr.)
Eva-Sophia P. Calvo & John DL Guerrero (Deion Xavier, Danika Shaye)

Our beloved Glenn Stuart is survived by numerous aunties, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.



On Tuesday, September 3, 2019 his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home at 8 am to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral for final viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11 am. Interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetary.

Si Yuus Ma'ase

Evelyn P. Calvo, Children, Grandchildren and Families

ASIAN BRIEFS

India plans massive hiring drive for govt workers in Kashmir

NEW DELHI (AP)—India says it plans to hire tens of thousands of government workers in its part of Kashmir after revoking the disputed region's special constitutional status, under which it had autonomy and outsiders could not buy land or hold private-sector jobs. Satya Pal Malik, the New Delhi-appointed governor, called it the largest recruitment drive in the region, with officials planning to fill up "50,000 vacancies in various government departments in the next few months." At a news conference Wednesday in Srinagar, the main city in Indian-controlled Kashmir, Malik also announced that the government is willing to commit $700 million to help apple farmers. Indian authorities believe the move will expand the region's economy, to which horticulture, particularly apple orchards, is critical. Indian officials have characterized their surprise move to strip Kashmir's special constitutional status as a way to boost its economic potential. They are also planning an international investment summit in the region as India has seen a slowdown in its economy.

South Korean leader says Japan dishonest over wartime past

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Thursday berated Japan for carrying out its plan to downgrade South Korea's trade status and reiterated Seoul's stance that Tokyo was weaponizing trade to retaliate over political rows stemming from the countries' wartime history. Moon said in a Cabinet meeting that Japan is being dishonest by insisting that its trade curbs weren't retaliation over historical issues, including South Korean court rulings that called for Japanese companies to offer reparations to aging South Korean plaintiffs for forced labor during World War II. He said Japan should look "squarely at the past" and that its current actions were aggravating the pain and anger of South Koreans who suffered under Japan's brutal colonial rule of Korea from 1910 to 1945. "Japan has yet to even state an honest reason for its economic retaliation .... No matter what excuse it provides as justification, it is clear that the Japanese government has linked historical issues to economic matters," Moon said.

Duterte arrives in Beijing to raise South China Sea with Xi

BEIJING (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte is in Beijing for a meeting with counterpart Xi Jinping. Duterte is expected Thursday to bring up a 2016 ruling on the South China Sea dispute that has for years strained relations between the two countries. The Hague arbitration, citing violations of the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, mostly invalidated China's claim to virtually the entire South China Sea. Duterte has sought warmer ties with Beijing and has long been criticized by nationalists and left-wing groups in the Philippines for not immediately demanding Chinese compliance with the ruling. The South China Sea's waters are a major shipping route for global commerce. They are also rich in fish and possible oil and gas reserves.

World

Bolsonaro says Amazon nations should decide region's future

PORTO VELHO, Brazil (AP)—Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said Wednesday that Latin America's Amazon countries will meet in September to discuss both protecting and developing the rainforest region, which has been hit by weeks of devastating fires.

Bolsonaro

The Brazilian leader also escalated a deeply personal dispute with French President Emmanuel Macron, accusing him of portraying himself as "the one and only person" concerned about the environment.

Bolsonaro's remarks pushed back at international allegations that, on his watch, the weakening of environmental safeguards in Brazil had set the stage for farmers, developers and others to set fires more aggressively this year as a way to clear land, much of it already deforested. They also highlighted the Brazilian government's contention that some international offers of help to fight the fires were an infringement of Brazilian sovereignty over the region.

Macron and other European leaders argue the fires in the Amazon require a global response because of the ecosystem's critical role in draining heat-trapping carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Macron criticized Bolsonaro for allegedly lying to him about his commitments to biodiversity, prompting the Brazilian to accuse the French leader of evoking his country's colonial past.

On Wednesday, Bolsonaro said Germany and France had tried to "buy" Brazil's sovereignty. The acrimony has sidelined a pledge of $20 million from the Group of Seven nations to help protect rainforest in the Amazon, though Bolsonaro said he would accept "bilateral" aid and that Chile was sending four firefighting planes. Britain has pledged $12 million and Canada has offered $11 million.

Leaders of all Amazon nations except Venezuela will meet Sept. 6 "to come up with our own unified strategy for preserving the environment, and also for exploration sustainable in our region," Bolsonaro said after meeting with Chilean President Sebastián Piñera in the Brazilian capital, Brasilia. The conference is to be in Colombia.

Latin America countries that contain Amazon rainforest "have sovereignty over the Amazon, that needs to be recognized always," Piñera said.

A regional conservationist said "the ideal scenario" would be if the Amazon countries agree on how to preserve the region and receive robust international support in order to do it.

"Sovereignty is certainly a fundamental issue here," said Roberto Troya, regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the WWF conservation group. But, he said, the issue can have a negative impact "if used as a shield to isolate and distort the reality of what's going on on the ground."

Six former Brazilian environment ministers met Wednesday with Rodrigo Maia, president of the lower house of congress, to demand stronger protections for the environment. The ministers said Brazil should accept international aid to fight the fires and accused Bolsonaro's government of dismantling environmental institutions, according to the G1 news website.

26 killed in fiery attack on bar in southern Mexico

COATZACOALCOS, Mexico (AP)—Gang members burst into a bar, blocked all the exits and then started a fire that killed 26 people and injured about a dozen others, Mexican officials said Wednesday.

Authorities said the attack in the Gulf coast city of Coatzacoalcos late Tuesday apparently was overseen by a man who had been recently arrested but released.

"The criminals went in, closed the doors, the emergency exits, and set fire to the place," President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said at his daily morning news conference.

Veracruz state police said the attack targeted the "Bar Caballo Blanco," or "White Horse Bar." It advertised "quality, security and service," private rooms for $7.50 "all night," ″sexy girls" and a pole dance contest.

It is located just off a busy commercial street in Coatzacoalcos, a city whose main industry has long been oil and oil refining.

On Wednesday afternoon, relatives of the victims gathered anxiously outside state prosecutors' offices with photos that could be used to identify their loved ones.

Those who had confirmation sat weeping in plastic chairs.

Vanessa Galindo Blas, 32, said her husband died in the fire. She sat shouting: "He didn't deserve this. Why did they do this to me? I don't to be here. I want to be with you."

She said her 29-year-old husband, Erick Hernández Enriquez, worked as the DJ in the bar and left behind three children aged 4, 5 and 10.

"I don't know how to tell my children," Galindo Blas wept, as her sister-in-law, Vanesa Hernandez, held her and sobbed. "He worked honorably for his children—that was the only reason he was in that place."

Another victim at the ill-fated bar was Habib Ojeda Sierra, 23, a grocery store worker who left two children behind.

His aunt, Alicia Sierra, expressed the same disbelief that anyone could have sealed her nephew, who was asthmatic, inside a burning building.

"They are cowards who don't value human lives. Why didn't they let them out?" Sierra said outside the office where identifications of the bodies were being confirmed. "If they had some problem with the owner, why didn't they go after him?"

Among the dead were two Filipino sailors. Ramón Guzman, the agent for the ship Caribe Lisa, said the two men had gone on shore leave after their ship arrived from Houston, and did not return. They were among those confirmed dead at the bar.

"This is the most inhuman thing possible," López Obrador said.

"It is regrettable that organized crime acts in this manner," he said, adding, "It is more regrettable that there may be collusion with authorities."

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
ITB19-GOV-121
SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ROLL-OFF TRUCK WITH CABLE HOIST & TARPING SYSTEM for the TINIAN TRANSFER STATION

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Arnold I. Palacios, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed bids for the Supply and Delivery of Roll-Off Truck with Cable Hoist and Tarping System for the Tinian Transfer Station, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on September 1, 2019 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on **Thursday, September 5, 2019, 10:00 am ChST** at the CIP Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Ms. Nerissa Benavente in writing by e-mail: nerissa.cip@gmail.com, on or before **Friday, September 13, 2019** to the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked ***ITB19-GOV-121 Supply and Installation of Roll-off Truck with Cable Hoist & tarping System for the Tinian Transfer Station***. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST September 30, 2019**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST September 30, 2019** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 30, 2019 and the bid documents must be received no later than October 9, 2019. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at ***10:00 a.m. ChST October 10, 2019***. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at ***10:00 a.m. ChST September 30, 2019***.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 180 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
†Raymond Franklin
Masga Nakazato
April 26, 1996 – September 2, 2018
As we remember †Raymond Franklin Masga Nakazato on his First Death Anniversary, we the family invite our relatives and friends to join us for the daily masses being offered to commemorate his new life. Daily mass of intention is offered beginning on Sunday, August 25, 2019 to Monday, September 02, 2019. Monday to Friday masses will be at 6:00 PM, Saturday and Sunday at 5:30 PM at the San Vicente Church.
Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are sincerely appreciated.
Leona & Takehide Nakazato, Children and Family

Off The Wall

STRIP DOWN, SADDLE UP

Naked bikers hit Philly streets

Nude bicyclist Oren Roth-Eisenberg has a message opposing fossil fuel consumption painted on his torso by his wife before the start of the Philly Naked Bike Ride in Philadelphia on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019. AP

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Hundreds of bicyclists have been caught with their pants down—and their shirts and underwear off, too.

The cyclists gathered in a Philadelphia park on Saturday to disrobe before saddling up and setting off on the annual Philly Naked Bike Ride.

About 3,000 riders pedal a 10-mile (16-kilometer) course around the City of Brotherly Love while taking in sights including Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, organizers say. Some riders wear their birthday suits while others flaunt their underwear or sport just a splash of body paint and glitter.

Melanie and James O'Connor, who painted each other's nude body in multiple colors, were riding for the seventh time.

"We run around naked a lot," he said.

The couple met at the 2012 ride and have been together since.

"I took a picture of him the moment we met, and seven years later we're still naked," she said.

The ride is to promote positive body image, advocate for the safety of cyclists and protest dependence on fossil fuels, a major issue for Oren Roth-Eisenberg, who participates every year.

"I call it my Christmas, the happiest day of the year," he said, while having a message advocating for less gas consumption painted on his torso by his wife. "It's the intersection of the happiest day and the most important thing."

The Philly Naked Bike Ride used to be held in September but was moved up to August because the nude and scantily clad participants complained about chilly weather.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Boy takes mom's car for German autobahn joyride—again

BERLIN (AP)—An 8-year-old boy got a stern talking-to earlier this week when he took his mom's Volkswagen for a joyride on the German autobahn, but after pulling the stunt again—hitting speeds of 180 kph (112 mph)—he's been put into psychological counselling. Dortmund police said Friday the grade-schooler stole the keys to the Golf around midnight and drove from his hometown Soest to Dortmund, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) away. Police say another motorist reported the child driving at high speeds in the city, saying "red lights and driving regulations did not seem to interest" him. As police searched for the vehicle, the boy drove out of town and crashed into the rear of a parked truck at a rest stop. Nobody was injured but the Golf was badly damaged.

Cameras catch woman using saw to break into Botox clinic

SUGAR LAND, Texas (AP)—Police in suburban Houston are looking for a woman who used a power tool to break into a Botox clinic and steal anti-aging products. Sugar Land police say surveillance cameras captured the burglary Friday night at the Botox RN MD Spa. The footage shows a woman approaching the locked door of the spa and trying unsuccessfully to open it. She then retrieves a battery-powered grinding saw from a light-colored Mercedes SUV and uses it to cut into the clinic's front door. Authorities say the woman stole an undisclosed amount of products from the clinic before driving away. Anyone with information is asked to contact Sugar Land police.

Beer can enthusiasts head to New Mexico for 'CANvention'

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Hundreds of beer can collectors are heading to New Mexico for a "CANvention." The Albuquerque Journal reports the Brewery Collectibles Club of America is scheduled Thursday to start celebrating different types of beer cans at its three-day national gathering at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The club says the event attracts collectors from around the world who trade, buy and sell vintage and craft beer cans. It is a chance for those attending to sample beer from local Albuquerque brewers. The gathering began in 1969 after collector Denver Wright, Jr. put an ad in a St. Louis newspaper asking anyone who collected beer cans to contact him. Six collectors responded and they held an event in Denver months later.

Science & Technology

When a flash drive won't work with a PC

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Q: I'm trying to copy photos and some Excel, Word and PDF files from my Windows 7 PC to my Windows 10 laptop. I copied the files to a flash drive, then tried to store them on the Windows 10 PC. However, instead of reading the files, the Windows 10 PC reformatted the flash drive, erasing all the files I'd stored on it. What can I do to prevent this from happening again?

A: Windows 10 should not reformat a flash drive without asking you first. So, what went wrong? A rundown:

■ We can rule out a compatibility issue between Windows 7 and Windows 10. Both read all common flash drive formats.

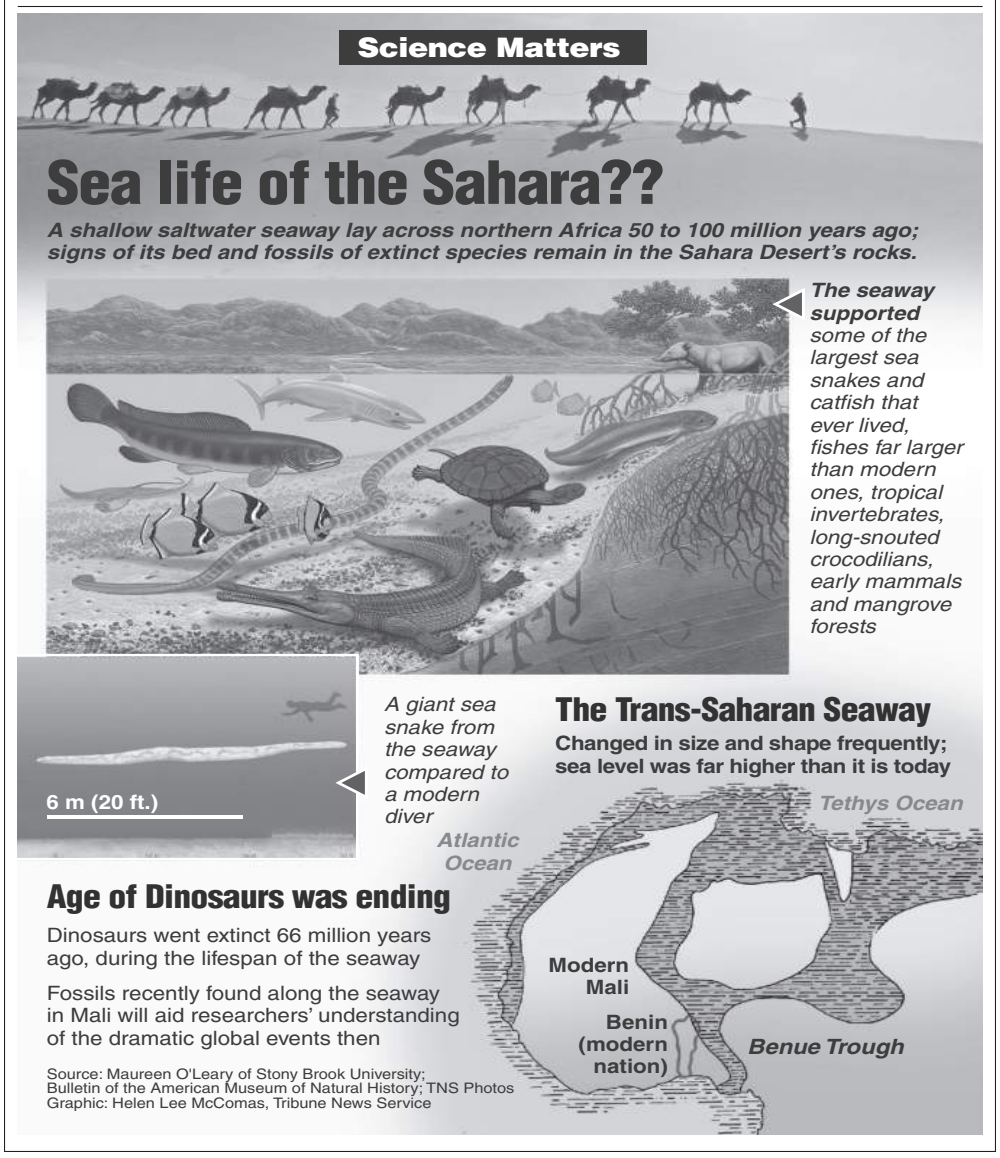
■ One possibility is an accidental mouse click. If you right-click a flash drive icon in the Windows 10's File Explorer, the resulting menu lists the "copy" command only three spaces below the "format" command. It is possible to click the wrong one.

■ There could be a technical flaw in the flash drive or the USB port. That could prevent Windows 10 from reading the flash drive, which could make the operating system believe that the flash drive wasn't properly formatted. At that point, you would be asked whether Windows 10 should format the flash drive. An extra mouse click might have started the format.

To make sure you weren't the victim of an equipment failure, try an experiment. Put a different flash drive in a different USB port of the Windows 10 PC. If Windows 10 doesn't ask to format the second flash drive, the problem probably lies with the original flash drive or the original USB port. Now try the second flash drive in the original USB port where the format problem occurred. If Windows 10 doesn't ask to reformat the second flash drive, the USB port is OK and problem may lie in the original flash drive.

What can you do if the original flash drive was faulty? You probably don't have to do anything, because any drive corruption should have been fixed by the reformatting. As a test, try copying your Windows 7 files to the original flash drive again, then transferring the files to the Windows 10 PC. My guess is that this time it will work. If it doesn't, replace the flash drive because it's flawed in some other way.

The unexpected reformatting may also have done you a favor. New flash drives typically come pre-formatted in the older FAT32 (File Allocation Table 32) memory standard, whose chief shortcoming is that it can't handle individual files larger than 4 gigabytes (high-definition movie files are that big.) Windows 10 has probably reformatted the flash drive with the newer NTFS (New Technology Files System) or exFAT (extended File Allocation Table) formats that don't have the 4-gigabyte file limit. To find out what format the flash drive now has, open File Explorer, right-click the flash drive icon and choose "properties."


Science Matters
Sea life of the Sahara??
A shallow saltwater seaway lay across northern Africa 50 to 100 million years ago; signs of its bed and fossils of extinct species remain in the Sahara Desert's rocks.
The seaway supported some of the largest sea snakes and catfish that ever lived, fishes far larger than modern ones, tropical invertebrates, long-snouted crocodilians, early mammals and mangrove forests
6 m (20 ft.)
A giant sea snake from the seaway compared to a modern diver
The Trans-Saharan Seaway
Changed in size and shape frequently; sea level was far higher than it is today
Tethys Ocean
Atlantic Ocean
Modern Mali
Benin (modern nation)
Benue Trough
Age of Dinosaurs was ending
Dinosaurs went extinct 66 million years ago, during the lifespan of the seaway
Fossils recently found along the seaway in Mali will aid researchers' understanding of the dramatic global events then
Source: Maureen O'Leary of Stony Brook University; Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History; TNS Photos
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

The women behind Elsa on 'Frozen 2'

NEW YORK (AP)—Years after "Frozen" came out, some of us still can't walk through our home without accidentally prompting "Let it Go" to erupt from some unseen toy.

Elsa never really left us. But she's back.

If you haven't already been informed by some young girl (or boy) in your life, "Frozen 2" will be unleashed in theaters on Nov. 22, six years after the original amassed $1.2 billion in worldwide ticket sales (a record for an animated film), sent the name "Elsa" skyrocketing up popular baby name lists and ingrained the lyrics of "Let it Go" on the collective consciousness of humankind.

To reflect on Elsa's journey ahead of the release of "Frozen 2," The Associated Press assembled the two women most responsible for her creation: Jennifer Lee, co-director and writer of each film, and Idina Menzel, the Tony-winning actress who gives the ice queen her clarion voice.

Elsa was initially designed as the villain of "Frozen" but was reshaped as a new kind of Disney princess: fiercely independent, magically powerful and humanly flawed. She has ever since been a beacon of female empowerment to millions of young girls—and, as they explained, to Menzel and Lee, too.

AP

This image released by Disney shows characters, from left, Sven, Olaf, voiced by Josh Gad, Kristoff, voiced by Jonathan Groff, Elsa, voiced by Idina Menzel, and Anna, voiced by Kristen Bell, in a scene from "Frozen 2," in theaters on Nov. 22.

AP: How does it feel to have created the most powerful thing known to man?

Menzel: (Laughs) I don't think we've created the most powerful thing known to man, but it's nice to know we created something that resonates so strongly and beautifully within young people.

Lee: For (co-director Chris Buck) and I, everyday we're still surprised. We always ask the question of "Why?" and there's not a single answer.

AP: But why do you think "Frozen" has so resonated? After watching it a few hundred times, I'd say its power is predicated on its portrait of sisterhood and a young woman coming to terms—letting out—her talent.

Lee: They had flaws. They were messy and real. They were misunderstood and they were alone at times. But they had in this journey a perseverance and looked out for each other. To me, it's not trying to be perfect or polished. It's trying to connect with real experiences and real emotion.

Menzel: It's so refreshing that a man is not the answer to their problems. It's (Anna and Elsa's) relationship to one another, seeing the love affair of these two sisters. That's unique to most films in general and especially in a Disney movie.

AP: Idina, how would you describe your relationship with Elsa?

Idina: It's funny. The character has sort of catapulted me to be a role model for young girls and boys. Yet I'm a woman in her 40s who still has to remind herself of her own power and pick herself up every day and figure out how I want to tackle the day and approach my life. I have to sing her songs and say her words all the time. It's a constant reminder to walk the walk and talk the talk and love myself, and love my vulnerabilities and my idiosyncrasies and everything that I am. And to understand that what makes me different and unique is what makes me powerful and beautiful.

AP: You were both very successful before "Frozen" but your lives have been changed by it. Jennifer has since become the head of Disney Animation.

Lee: What "Frozen" did for me is that it opened doors. As a woman in Hollywood, it's all about access. I was given a chance on "Frozen" and because of "Frozen," the doors were opened. Having those opened doors makes you take more chances.

AP: "Frozen" is the highest-grossing film worldwide directed by a woman, a record "Frozen 2" is likely to surpass. Is that a meaningful mark to you?

Lee: It's a surprising mark for me. I didn't know any of these statistics when I came into the industry. I sort of naively just said I want to make movies and didn't realize that I would be the first woman of certain things. I'm hoping that all changes. I'll be the first in some of these but I can see a huge change happening where women are directing more.

AP: Idina, what did you think about becoming Elsa again?

Menzel: I hadn't stopped being Elsa because I had been on the road and singing all over the world and would close my show with "Let It Go" now. It's the biggest song I had in my repertoire. It's the first time I had sort of a hit song. Being from Broadway, you have songs people know and love but they're not necessarily "hits." Singing it in different languages all over the world and it being this conduit to kids in my audience. Not just kids, actually. A wide demographic of people actually like the song, whether they admit it or not. (laughs)

AP: You've sung "Let it Go" in other languages?

Menzel: I have. I can do Japanese. I once tried Dutch, which was horrible. I wrote it out phonetically and they'll probably never have me back there. But I at least tried.

AP: It took some soul searching to initiate plans for a sequel. What kick-started it?

Lee: We weren't thinking about a sequel at all. About a year after the film came out, our producer Peter Del Vecho had been traveling and came back with messages from around the world. He was trying to understand what it was about Elsa and "Let it Go." The feedback was that she's freeing for people who feel a lot of pressure, for people who feel misunderstood—someone who carries our pain and sets us free. And every one of them asked: Why does she have powers? Chris and I looked at each other and said: "There's still more of this story."

AP: What should fans expect in "Frozen 2"?

Lee: At the end of the day, this film is still about two sisters. Life throws you curve balls post-Happily Ever After—how you cope and a family struggling to stay together. They're all changing—even Olaf!

Menzel: Elsa and Anna push each other and make each other rise to new levels. They evolve and through this journey they become the most gorgeous women they can be. They both find themselves.

Ex-wife offers to pay child support she owes to the kids

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for 16 years. His ex was supposed to pay child support, but didn't. He worked in his career for only one year after we married and since then has held menial jobs, which have kept his future retirement intact. I have provided him and his children a home for which he has never made a mortgage payment or taxes, utilities, clothes, etc. His children have never lacked for anything.

His ex now wants to resolve the back child support issue by giving the settlement amount of money to the kids. I don't feel they should get it because it is owed to HIM. I'd like to see him use it to pay off some of his credit card bills, which are high.

She has told the kids what she is offering and plans to guilt him into giving it to them. He doesn't have to settle that way if he chooses. He doesn't know that I saw the letter, and he's lying about the amount she's willing to pay. What should I do?

PRESENT MRS.

DEAR PRESENT MRS.: After having supported your husband and his children all these years, the LEAST you are owed is honesty. What you should do is discuss this with an attorney of your own immediately and, while you are at it, raise the subject of what is and is not considered community property in your state. You should also determine to what extent you might be responsible for paying those high credit card balances should he renege. Once you have the answers, you will be better able to determine how to handle this.

DEAR ABBY: Ten years ago, I was a guest at the home of my friend "Roger" for a five-day holiday celebration. We've shared this event with family and friends for years. I was the only non-family member out of the five adults and two teenagers staying at his home. The guest room assigned to me shared Roger's master bathroom, which I used.

During my visit, Roger's prescription medicine came up missing. I heard about it from a mutual friend a day after I returned home. This friend told me Roger was adamant that I took his medication and there was no need to question anyone else.

Roger would not accept my calls. To add insult to injury, the so-called mutual friend agrees with Roger that I was the culprit! So, I have lost two friends. How do I let go and move on? Time hasn't healed THESE wounds.

ACCUSED IN OHIO

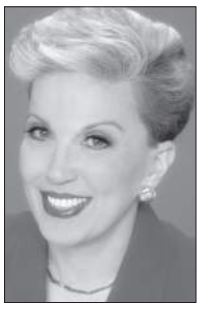
DEAR ACCUSED: Roger should have confronted you when his medication turned up missing. That he accused you behind your back to someone makes me wonder how good a friend he really was. As to the mutual friend who contacted you the next day, be grateful.

It is my experience that we can do what we set our minds to. Start celebrating this holiday by involving yourself in travel or other activities you enjoy, and spend time with other people so you won't be alone.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. S

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

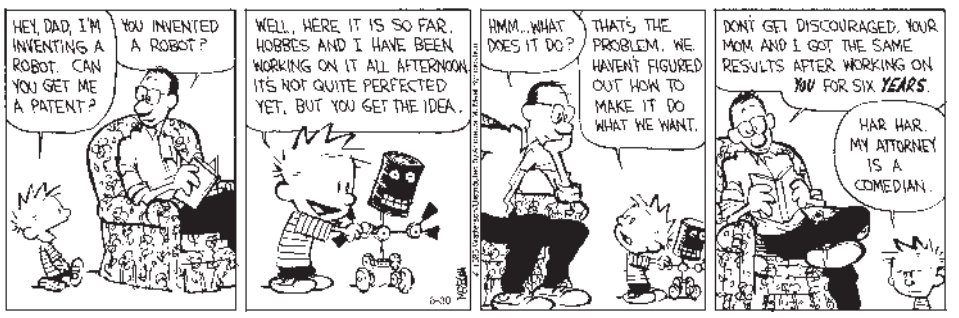


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

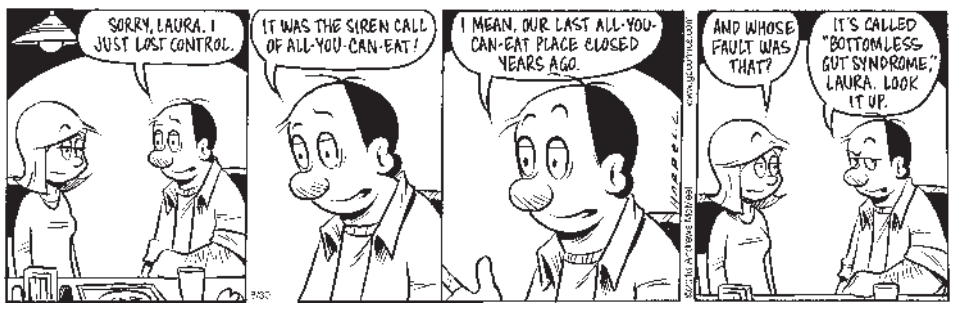

HEY, DAD, I'M INVENTING A ROBOT. CAN YOU GET ME A PATENT?
YOU INVENTED A ROBOT?
WELL, HERE IT IS SO FAR. HOBBES AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON IT ALL AFTERNOON. IT'S NOT QUITE PERFECTED YET, BUT YOU GET THE IDEA.
HMM...WHAT DOES IT DO?
THAT'S THE PROBLEM. WE HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT HOW TO MAKE IT DO WHAT WE WANT.
DON'T GET DISCOURAGED. YOUR MOM AND I GOT THE SAME RESULTS AFTER WORKING ON YOU FOR SIX YEARS.
HAR HAR. MY ATTORNEY IS A COMEDIAN.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

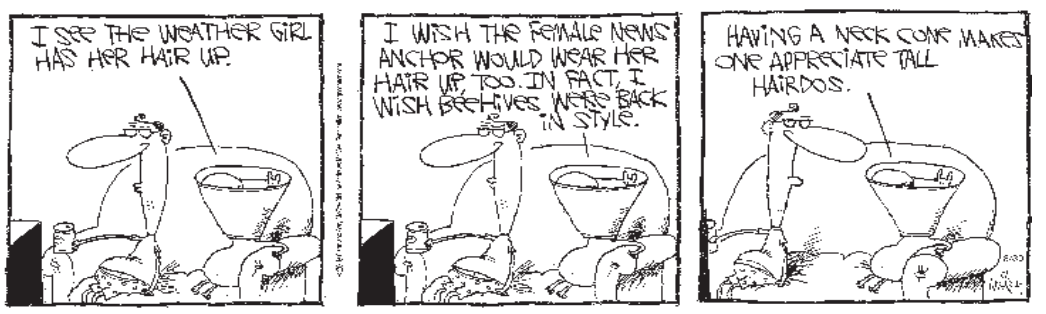
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SORRY, LAURA. I JUST LOST CONTROL.
IT WAS THE SIREN CALL OF ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT!
I MEAN, OUR LAST ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PLACE CLOSED YEARS AGO.
AND WHOSE FAULT WAS THAT?
IT'S CALLED "BOTTOMLESS GUT SYNDROME," LAURA. LOOK IT UP.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I SEE THE WEATHER GIRL HAS HER HAIR UP.
I WISH THE FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR WOULD WEAR HER HAIR UP, TOO. IN FACT, I WISH BEEHIVES WERE BACK IN STYLE.
HAVING A NECK CONE MAKES ONE APPRECIATE TALL HAIRDOS.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "It's a Wonderful Life" director
6 Sit-up targets
9 Schedule abbr.
12 "— Grows in Brooklyn"
13 "The Bells" author
14 Green shade
15 Suit
16 Like many family films
18 Belly button types
20 "Casablanca" role
21 Blunder
23 Docs' org.
24 Laundromat machine
25 Broadway flop
27 Second course?
29 Abutting
31 "True Colors" singer Cyndi
35 Zesty dip
37 Eyelid woe
38 Irritable
41 Epoch
43 Nap site
44 Rent- —
45 Panda's diet
47 Letter holders
49 Anticipate
52 100 percent
53 Swelled head
54 Aquarium favorite
55 Observe
56 Nine-digit ID
57 English county

DOWN

1 Taxi
2 Noshed
3 Celeb-promoting groups
4 Check
5 Insurance giant
6 Charm
7 Marshy areas
8 Sun. talk
9 In a proper way
10 Della or Pee Wee
11 Doppler device
17 Boeing rival
19 Spur on
21 Recede
22 Shad product
24 Genetic stuff
26 Casual eatery
28 Warning sound
30 24 hours
32 WWII vessels
33 CBS logo
34 Roulette bet
36 Winter, for one
38 Spanish snacks
39 Paris school
40 Shade of black
42 Diminish
45 Pleads
46 Is in debt
48 Ballot marks
50 Fury
51 Levy

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	L	F	A		A	R	K		U	D	O	N
P	E	A	L		C	E	C		T	E	R	I
B	A	I	L		A	P	P		O	V	A	L
S	H	R	F	W	O		T	I	P	P	I	F
			G	E	E			N	I	A		
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P	O	P	E	Y	E		H	E	_	E	N	A
A	P	A	R		A	W	F			I	A	M
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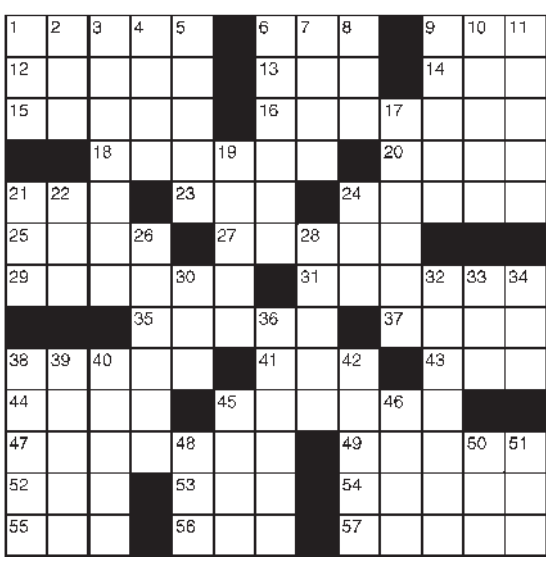
E	C	H	O		P	B	S		W	E	E	K

Yesterday's answer 8-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andy Roddick, 37; Lisa Ling, 46; Cameron Diaz, 47; Michael Chiklis, 56.

Happy Birthday: Envision what you want to achieve this year, and set your plans in motion. This year is about completion, change and getting what you want. Don't waste time procrastinating when you should be taking action and living your dream. Don't let other people's situations stand between you and your long-term goal. Transparency will help you get your way. Your numbers are 6, 14, 20, 28, 32, 45, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Before agreeing to something, find out what you'll have to do and what you will get in return. Mutual respect and equality need to be a starting point if you plan to move forward with something or someone. Be open to suggestions. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* If you crave change, go somewhere or try something you've never experienced. Meeting new people or doing something with someone you love is encouraged. Love and romance will enhance your life. Socializing, traveling and personal improvements are favored. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Take a close look at what someone offers. You'll be taken advantage of if you are too accommodating. Be open to information, but don't provide too much to someone who isn't willing to give back. Deception is apparent. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Now is the time to make your move. Be creative, and you'll find solutions that will lead to precisely what you want to happen. Doing something with friends or relatives should be scheduled. Love and romance are in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take stock before you make any unnecessary changes. Know what you are up against, what you need and how best to be competent and cost-efficient. Finish taking care of your responsibilities before you move on to more pleasurable pursuits. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Put everything in order, and take care of unfinished business. Pay attention to detail, and don't be fooled by someone's exaggerated opinion. Stay on track and on budget, and deviate only when there is a clear-cut purpose to do so. Romance is featured. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Look inward. Consider what makes you happy. Take care of yourself. Put your emotional and physical health first. Refuse to let anyone bully you into something you don't want to do or use manipulative tactics to control you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Some options will be better than others. Choose wisely, do your research and discover what will make you the happiest and proceed down that path. Consider if your peace of mind is worth more than financial profit. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Stick close to home, and surround yourself with supportive and reliable people. Too much of anything will be to your detriment. Trust in what you know is the truth and those who have never let you down. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Buying or selling your home or possessions and making improvements that will give you a new lease on life are favored. Love and romance will bring you closer to someone you cherish. Physical fitness and proper diet are encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Make a change because it's something you want to do, not because someone is forcing it on you. Stand up for your rights, and take care of your physical, emotional and financial well-being. Don't let others decide your fate. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* You can accomplish more if you work alongside like-minded people to bring about positive change. Improving how you handle money will prompt you to save for something unique. Romance and commitment will bring you closer to someone you love. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are efficient, practical and resilient. You are focused and informative.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3				5		
	6	7						4
	1			8	2			
2	7				3	6		
		4				9		
		1	9				7	8
			6	3			2	
1					5	4		
	5				7			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

3	4	6	8	7	1	2	9	5
2	8	7	9	3	5	4	1	6
9	5	1	6	4	2	8	3	7
1	9	5	4	8	7	6	2	3
7	6	3	1	2	9	5	8	4
4	2	8	5	6	3	1	7	9
6	3	4	7	1	8	9	5	2
5	1	2	3	9	6	7	4	8
8	7	9	2	5	4	3	6	1

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

GLORIA VANDERBILT (1924-2019) **Solution: 9 letters**

S	S	E	R	I	E	H	F	A	S	H	I	O	N	S
N	D	E	S	I	G	N	E	R	E	Ⓢ	E	O	H	S
A	L	O	R	E	A	L	S	D	Ⓣ	C	S	O	H	E
E	A	L	C	S	D	S	E	Ⓡ	R	R	A	E	H	N
J	N	U	S	H	I	U	Ⓐ	O	E	E	E	R	U	Y
E	I	M	W	N	R	D	R	D	P	T	S	T	G	H
U	G	E	A	C	A	I	N	T	S	O	T	S	H	S
L	E	T	N	H	A	A	S	E	R	A	L	L	E	S
B	R	N	L	P	A	T	V	T	Y	E	C	D	S	S
A	O	D	O	D	G	O	H	W	O	A	G	N	K	E
M	O	M	G	L	L	C	I	L	R	P	O	A	R	V
M	C	O	O	P	E	R	L	T	E	D	H	E	A	R
E	B	R	A	N	D	O	E	A	R	E	F	E	P	A
L	I	Q	U	E	U	R	S	O	I	I	N	T	R	C
A	R	T	I	S	T	E	G	B	L	O	U	S	E	S

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Anderson, Artist, Arts, Blouses, Blue Jeans, Boat, Brando, Carter, Cathleen, Christopher, CNN, Cooper, Dahl, Designer, Dodo, Dresses, Emma, Fashion, Gertrude, Gloria, Gordon, Grace, Heiress, Hughes, Leopold, Life, Liqueurs, L'Oréal, Love, Lumet, Mom, Parks, Pat, Reginald, Scarves, Sell, Sheets, Shoes, Shyness, Sidney, Sinatra, Swan Logo, Wyatt

Yesterday's Answer: Chips

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Sewing Machine Operator – High School Diploma and atleast 3 months work experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises corp. dba
Pena House Boutique and Salon
Ground Floor, Sablan Building, Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)235-7270

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CURRY ENTERPRISES, LLC
1 CHEF AND HEAD COOK
starting salary $13.87 to $19.00

Interested applicants,
pls call 233-3372
email: mabang1521@gmail.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CFPJ Corporation
(18) Maintenance
& Repair Workers, General
$8.33/per hr.

Interested applicants,
pls call 235-2375
email: cfpjcorp.2014@yahoo.com

WAREHOUSE for RENT

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #1 Size: 5,000sq/ft with built-in office & bathroom

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 234-0609 EXT. 158, 285-1317

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) SALES PERSON - $8.57 to 8.88 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Sell merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles and parts, appliances, or apparel to consumers. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Recommend, select, and help locate or obtain merchandise based on customer needs and desires. Compute sales prices, total purchases, and receive and process cash or credit payment. Prepare merchandise for purchase or rental. Answer questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 12 months experience
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –Marianaslabor.net.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Three (03) Auto Technicians 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience.
- Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WHATZIT Solution:
Check all the right boxes

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

CHARLENE MANGLONA LIZAMA VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Commercial Cleaner -
High School Diploma and at least 2 years work experience.
salary $7.30/ per hr.
Interested applicants please call 287-3223
email:vicelizama@yahoo.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Househelper - Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores. With valid driver's license.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc.
AYD Compound, Beach Road,
San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 235-7011

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Beautician – One year experience as Beautician. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors, Hair High-lights.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing LLC.
Ground Floor, Afetna Building, Beach Road, San Antonio Village,
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 670-235-1680

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(05) SERVICE TECHNICIAN- $10.58 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40hrs.a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports. Cut or drill holes in walls or floors to accommodate the passage of pipes. Perform rough-ins, repair and replace fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or remove leaking or broken pipes. Assist pipe fitters in the layout, assembly, and installation of piping for air, ammonia, gas, and water systems. Cut pipe and lift up to fitters. Fit or assist in fitting valves, couplings, or assemblies to tanks, pumps, or systems, using hand tools. Requisition tools and equipment, select type and size of the pipe, and collect and transport materials and equipment to work site. Mount brackets and hangers on walls and ceilings to hold pipes, and set sleeves or inserts to provide support for pipes. Excavate and grade ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service. Disassemble and remove the damaged or worn pipe.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –mananaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **STEEL WORKERS** $14.53 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Raise, place, and unite iron or steel girders, columns, and other structural members to form completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Read specifications or blueprints to determine the locations, quantities, or sizes of materials required. Connect columns, beams, and girders with bolts, following blueprints and instructions from supervisors. Bolt aligned structural steel members in position for permanent riveting, bolting, or welding into place. Fasten structural steel members to hoist cables, using chains, cables, or rope. Hoist steel beams, girders, or columns into place, using cranes or signaling hoisting equipment operators to lift and position structural steel members.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –mananaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) **MATERIAL CONTROL MANAGER** $9.02 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Weigh, measure, and check materials, supplies, and equipment for the purpose of keeping relevant records. Duties are primarily clerical by nature. Manage, collect and keep record of samples of products or materials. Document quantity, quality, type, weight, test result data, and value of materials or products to maintain shipping, receiving, and production records and files. Weigh or measure materials, equipment, or products to maintain relevant records, using volume meters, scales, rules, or calipers. Collect or prepare measurement, weight, or identification labels and attach them to products. Examine products or materials, parts, subassemblies, and packaging for damage, defects, or shortages, using specification sheets, gauges, and standards charts. Signal or instruct other workers to weigh, move, or check products

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –mananaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) **Auto Technician** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Maintenance Technicians $8.33 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary. Repair machines, equipment, or structures, using tools such as hammers, hoists, saws, drills, wrenches, or equipment such as precision measuring instruments or electrical or electronic testing devices

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- o High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- o At least 12months experience.
- o Knowledge in using hand and power tools such as cordless power drills power circular saws and pullers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (02) Mechanics 7.98 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 PM

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience.
- Knowledge in using hand, power tools and tester.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670) 234-7900 ext. 811 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(30) **CARPENTER/LABOR** $9.76 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help carpenters by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Clean work areas, machines, or equipment, to maintain a clean and safe job site. Fasten timbers or lumber with glue, screws, pegs, or nails and install hardware. Perform tie spacing layout and measure, mark, drill or cut. Select tools, equipment, or materials from storage and transport items to work site. Drill holes in timbers or lumber.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) **CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN** 14.18 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of engineering staff or physical scientists. Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications, and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications. Confer with supervisor to determine project details such as plan preparation, acceptance testing, and evaluation of field conditions. Analyze proposed site factors and design maps, graphs, tracings, and diagrams to illustrate findings.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in practical application of Engineering Science and Technology

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **Counter Clerks** - $7.31 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Receive orders, generally in person, for repairs, rentals, and services. May describe available options, compute costs, and accept payment. Greet customers and discuss the type, quality, and quantity of merchandise sought for rental. Compute charges for merchandise or services and receive payments. Answer telephones to provide information and receive orders. Provide information about rental items, such as availability, operation, or description Rent items, arrange for provision of services to customers, and accept returns.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Degree;
- At least 06 months experience;
- Must be a computer literate

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(12) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site – marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(06) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

ITS CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Civil Engineering Technician $14.18 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of the Operating Manager. Calculate dimentions, square footage, profile and component specifications and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimentional drawings and design layouts for projects to ensure conformance with specifications. Confer with supervisors.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate Degree in Civil Engineering
- Minimum 24 months experience
- Civil Engineering license or equivalent

All interested applicants can send resume to:info@itscorporation.net Or visit our office P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website-marianaslabor.net

ITS CORPORATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) Heavy Equipment Mechanic $8.73 to $10.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Operate and Inspect Machines and Heavy Equipment, Trucks and vehicles to Diagnose Defects. Clean, Lubricate, and perform other routine maintenance work on Heavy equipment, Trucks and vehicles. Repair or Overhaul Machines, Heavy Equipment, Trucks, and Vehicles then test to ensure operating efficiency. Perform other related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High school graduate
At least 24 months experience as Heavy Mechanic is required

All interested applicants can submit resume at usafanter.operations@gmail.com or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – marianaslabor.net

USA Fanter is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

TWO (2) Rolling Machine Setter, Operator and Tender $13.92 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Set up, operate, or tend machines to roll steel forming bends, beads, knurls, rolls, or plate or to flatten, temper or reduce gauge of material. Inspect machine and conduct preventive maintenance. Have inspected materials and products for defects, and to ensure conformance to specifications. Set up machine to ensure items manufactured or produced meet customers' specifications. Direct or accomplish the threading or feed sheets or rods through rolling mechanisms or start and control mechanisms that automatically feed steel into rollers. Direct or accomplish the packaging, fastening or stacking of end product for proper storage or delivery. Accomplish other related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High school graduate
At least 12 months experience as Rolling machine, setter, operator and tender is required

All interested applicants can submit resume at usafanter.operations@gmail.com or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – marianaslabor.net

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ITS CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Heavy Equipment Operators - $9.05 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Operating and/or tending machinery equipped with scoops, shovels or buckets to excavate and load loose materials. These machinery may include excavators, backhoes, compactors and bulldozers. Moving levers, depressing foot pedals, and turning dials to operate power machinery. Setting up or inspecting equipment prior to operation. Observing hand signals, grade stakes or other markings. When operating machines so that work can be performed to specifications. Operates machinery to perform activities such as back filling, excavations, vibrating or breaking rocks or concrete.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate
- Minimum 12 months experience
- Knowledge in operating heavy equipment

All interested applicants can send resume to: info@itscorporation.net or visit our office at P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website-marianaslabor.net

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ITS CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Customer Service Representative - $9.26 per hour, plus x 1.5 OT, full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties may include but not limited to: Conferring with customers by phone or in person to provide information about products or services, take or enter orders, cancel accounts, or obtain details of complaints; checking to ensure that appropriate changes were made to resolve customer's problems; keeping records of customer interactions or transactions , customer service or billing complaints by performing activities such as exchanging service, refunding money or adjusting bills, and completing contract forms, preparing documents or issuing service discontinuance orders using computers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School graduate or GED
- Minimum 12 months experience
- Computer knowledge
- Valid CNMI driver's license

All interested applicants can send resume to:info@itscorporation.net Or visit our office P.O. Box 502273 Chalan Lau, Chalan Pale Arnold, Middle Road, Saipan, or contact us at telephone numbers (670) 235-6511 or (670) 285-4805 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's posted Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor website-marianaslabor.net

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Cubs hammer Syndergaard in win vs Mets

NEW YORK (AP)—The Chicago Cubs built a lead the New York Mets simply couldn't overcome Wednesday night. Might've done the same in the National League playoff race, too.

Kyle Schwarber hit one of Chicago's three homers against a stunned Noah Syndergaard, and the Cubs jumped to an early nine-run advantage before closer Craig Kimbrel held off the Mets in the ninth inning for a 10-7 victory.

"We were awesome the first three innings," Chicago manager Joe Maddon said.

Nicholas Castellanos and Ian Happ also took Syndergaard (9-7) deep in the worst start of the 2016 All-Star's career. Syndergaard allowed 10 runs and three homers —both his most in the majors—and was pulled after three miserable innings the day before his 27th birthday.

"I'm disappointed in myself," Syndergaard said. "I had an opportunity to go out there and do something big tonight and I let the team down."

Kimbrel entered with a three-run lead and let his first two batters reach in the ninth. He escaped a dicey 3-0 count against red-hot Amed Rosario with a fielder's choice, struck out Juan Lagares and got Todd Frazier to fly out for his 12th save.

Chicago stayed two games ahead of Philadelphia for the second NL wild card and stretched its lead over the Mets to four. The Cubs also pulled within two games of the NL Central-leading Cardinals.

It was the fourth straight road win for the Cubs, who are 27-39 away from Wrigley Field.

"How about it?" Maddon said. "There's no reason why we shouldn't or can't. We have a very good ballclub, we have tried-and-true, tested kind of guys. There's no reason why we shouldn't win on the road."

New York has dropped five straight, all at home, and lost steam on an improbable second-half surge into the postseason chase. The Mets will try to avoid a three-game sweep Thursday night with ace Jacob deGrom pitching before traveling to Philadelphia for a pivotal three-game series this weekend.

AP
New York Mets shortstop Amed Rosario, left, tags out Chicago Cubs' Tony Kemp on a steal attempt during the seventh inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2019, in New York.

Phillies 12, Pirates 3

In Philadelphia, J.T. Realmuto had three hits, including a homer and a triple, Corey Dickerson also went deep and the Phillies got 17 hits in a victory over the Pirates.

Cesar Hernandez contributed three hits and three RBIs. Rhys Hoskins doubled, tripled and drove in a run to help the Phillies stay close in the NL wild-card race.

Every position player who started for the Phillies had at least one hit and RBI.

Starling Marte homered and had three hits for Pittsburgh, and Josh Bell hit a two-run shot.

Pirates rookie Bryan Reynolds, who began the day leading the NL in batting, went 0 for 3 to snap his seven-game hitting streak and drop his average to .330.

Yankees 7, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Aaron Judge hit the 101st homer of his career, Gary Sanchez, DJ LeMahieu and Mike Ford also went deep, and New York completed a three-game sweep of the Mariners.

Sanchez hit a towering two-run homer in the first. Ford snapped a 2-2 tie with his sixth home run in the past 14 games, and Judge broke the game open with a two-run shot as part of New York's four-run fifth inning. LeMahieu added his 23rd of the season in the ninth.

James Paxton (11-6) gave up just one hit but was done after five innings due to control problems.

Red Sox 7, Rockies 4

In Denver, Xander Bogaerts went deep twice as Boston extended its home run streak to 18 games in a win over Colorado.

It's the third-longest streak in franchise history. Boston's best run was 22 straight games with a homer in 2016.

The heart of the order powered the Red Sox as they finished a two-game sweep of Colorado. Rafael Devers, Bogaerts and J.D. Martinez went a combined 8 for 14 with four home runs. Bogaerts had a two-run homer in the fifth inning and a solo shot in the seventh.

Brewers 4, Cardinals 1

In Milwaukee, Keston Hiura homered and drove in three runs, Jordan Lyles turned in another strong start and the Brewers snapped St. Louis' six-game winning streak.

The NL Central-leading Cardinals had won 15 of 18 and were trying for a three-game sweep. The Brewers ended a three-game skid.

Hiura hit a solo home run in the fourth, sending a 3-0 fastball from Flaherty into the left-field seats. Hiura added an RBI double in the eighth.

Lyles (9-8) struck out five of the first seven Cardinals he faced. He fanned nine in 5 1/3 innings. Josh Hader struck out three in two scoreless innings to earn his 26th save.

Dodgers 6, Padres 4, 10 innings

In San Diego, Kiké Hernández scored the tiebreaking run on shortstop Luis Urias' throwing error with two outs in the 10th inning and Los Angeles beat the Padres after Kenley Jansen blew his seventh save on a wild pitch in the ninth.

The Dodgers' magic number for clinching their seventh straight NL West title is down to nine. They took two of three from the Padres after losing two of three to the New York Yankees at Dodger Stadium last weekend.

Kirby Yates (0-5) got two outs in the 10th before walking Hernández, who stole second. Urias made a tough, short-hop pickup of a ball hit sharply by Russell Martin, but then overthrew first base for an error that allowed Hernández to score. A.J. Pollock added an RBI single.

The Dodgers took a 4-3 lead into the ninth and Jansen (4-3) was trying for his 28th save. But he allowed Francisco Mejia's leadoff double to left field that fell just in front of a sliding Chris Taylor. Mejia advanced on Urias' flyout to right and scored on Jansen's wild pitch.

Indians 4, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Jason Kipnis homered twice and Francisco Lindor also went deep to lift Cleveland to another win over the Tigers.

Cleveland is 14-1 against the last-place Tigers this year, and that's a big reason the Indians are firmly in the postseason hunt.

Aaron Civale (2-3) allowed two runs and six hits in seven innings, striking out five and walking none. Brad Hand finished for his 32nd save in 37 chances.

Braves 9, Blue Jays 4

In Toronto, Freddie Freeman hit his 36th home run and drove in a pair of runs, Matt Joyce homered and had two RBIs and Atlanta beat the Raptors.

Ronald Acuña Jr. added a two-run double as the NL East-leading Braves snapped a two-game losing streak and won for the ninth time in 11 games.

Atlanta reliever Luke Jackson (8-2) pitched 1 1/3 innings to win his fifth straight decision.

Royals 6, Athletics 4

In Kansas City, Hunter Dozier homered before driving in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, Ryan O'Hearn also went deep and Kansas City held on to beat Oakland.

Tim Hill (2-0) tossed two perfect innings in relief of Jakob Junis for the Royals, and Ian Kennedy survived a harrowing ninth inning to pick up his 23rd save.

Blake Treinen (6-5) faced four batters in the seventh inning without recording an out for Oakland.

Reds 5, Marlins 0

In Miami, Aristides Aquino tied a National League rookie mark with his 13th home run this month, powering Anthony DeSclafani and Cincinnati Reds over the Marlins.

Eugenio Suarez hit his 38th homer, connecting in the fourth straight game for the Reds.

Aquino hit a three-run shot in the first. The 24-year-old outfielder matched the NL homer mark for rookies in a month set by Cody Bellinger of the Dodgers in June 2017.

Nationals 8, Orioles 4

In Washington, Max Scherzer struck out eight to reach the 200 mark for an eighth straight season, Kurt Suzuki homered and drove in four runs and Washington beat Baltimore.

Scherzer allowed two runs and six hits over 4 1/3 innings. Wander Suero (5-7) followed Scherzer as the National won for the sixth time in seven games.

The Nationals scored five runs on five hits in the first inning against Asher Wojciechowski (2-7).

Astros 8, Rays 6

In Houston George Springer broke a tie with a bloop RBI single in a three-run seventh inning and the Astros rallied to beat Tampa Bay and extend its winning streak to six.

Alex Bregman had three hits and an RBI and Yuli Gurriel hit a two-run homer for Houston.

Gerrit Cole allowed six hits and four runs in 6 1/3 innings, but did not factor into the decision. He struck out 14 to tie a season high. Will Harris (4-1) struck out three in 1 1/3 scoreless innings for the win.

Twins 8, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Jonathan Schoop hit two homers and drove in four runs, Mitch Garver also connected and Minnesota beat the White Sox for its fourth straight win.

It was the 13th multihomer game of Schoop's career and fifth this year.

José Abreu and Matt Skole each drove a run for Chicago.

Jake Odorizzi (14-6) allowed two runs and five hits in six effective innings. He walked two and struck out eight.

Ross Detwiler (2-4) gave up five runs and six hits in four innings.

Rangers 3, Angels 0

In Anaheim, Ariel Jurado pitched six innings of two-hit ball to earn his second victory since June, and Delino DeShields reached over the center field fence to make a spectacular homer-stealing catch as Texas beat Los Angeles.

Nick Solak had an RBI single in the sixth and Isiah Kiner-Falefa added a two-run double in the eighth as the Rangers won the season series 10-9 over their fellow AL West also-rans. Texas took four of six from the Angels in two series over the past 10 days.

Serena avoids upset against 17-year-old

AP

Serena Williams of the United States reaches for a shot from Caty McNally of the United States during the second round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2019.

NEW YORK (AP)—Serena Williams flubbed yet another shot and wailed, "I keep missing my forehand!"

She was in trouble, if only briefly, against 17-year-old American Caty McNally, who is friends, and doubles partners, with Coco Gauff.

Making key adjustments to her serve and straightening out her other strokes, Williams avoided what would have been her earliest loss in 19 appearances at the U.S. Open, coming back to beat McNally 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 in a match that ended as Wednesday turned to Thursday.

"You can't win tournaments making that many errors," Williams said. "I knew I had to play better, and I knew I could."

And so she did.

"Obviously, she's going to pick up her level. I knew that was going to happen," McNally said. "Next time, I just have to raise my level with hers."

Williams improved to 38-0 in the first two rounds at Flushing Meadows. The only time she was beaten as early as even the third round in New York was in her tournament debut all way back in 1998—when she was just 16 herself.

The following year, Williams won the first of her six U.S. Open championships. McNally hadn't even been born yet.

Now 37, Williams owns 23 Grand Slam singles titles in all, and she showed off why while powering her way through a deficit, taking 16 of the final set's initial 17 points.

McNally had never won a match at any major tournament until Monday. She is ranked 121st and received a wild-card invitation from the U.S. Tennis Association for singles and for doubles, the latter with 15-year-old sensation Gauff.

It was Gauff who beat Williams' older sister, Venus, on the way to the fourth round of Wimbledon last month.

Might another stunner be in the offing? Seemed a possibility for a set, anyway, with McNally charging the net, serving-and-volleying, and looking like someone who belonged.

Maybe that's why Williams never looked comfortable early. Took time to get into a real groove. Went stretches without being the dominant force she's been for a couple of decades and sure was just the other night while absolutely overwhelming five-time major champion Maria Sharapova 6-1, 6-1 in the same arena.

The Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd, made louder than usual under the retractable roof that was closed all day because of showers, alternated who it was pulling for, more than happy to cheer for either woman representing the United States at the country's Grand Slam tournament.

Who doesn't love to support an all-time great, after all? And who doesn't enjoy getting behind a true underdog?

"She's young. It's her first time in a stage like this and only her second Grand Slam, so I think there's a lot to gain from it," said Lynn Nabors-McNally, Caty's mother, who also helps coach her. "It's a great stepping stone to a lot of things."

So there was McNally, almost strutting to the sideline while waving her arms, trying to get the spectators to offer even more noise and more applause after she pulled out the opening set in impressive fashion. First, McNally converted her only break point of the match to lead 6-5. Then she served out the set despite falling behind love-40, erasing three break points and hitting a 103-mph service winner to seal it —and implored the fans to get loud.

They obliged.

"I knew I was playing against the greatest of all time. ... I walked out there and I had the chills," McNally said. "Super happy just to get a set from her. That's something that not very many people do."

And for a bit of the second set, too, McNally stayed with Williams.

But Williams started to pull away, in part by dispensing with the serves out wide that McNally was handling well, and in part by reducing her mistakes from 15 unforced errors in the first set, to 11 in the second to two in the third.

"Actually, I'd rather not be tested in every match. But that doesn't happen. So it's important for me to have those, like, really rough, rowdy matches," Williams said. "That helps a lot."

Meanwhile, Coco Gauff has a match under the lights—and a potential showdown with the defending U.S. Open champion if she wins it.

The 15-year-old American plays Timea Babos in the leadoff match of the evening session in Louis Armstrong Stadium, where she pulled out a three-set victory in the first round. That win over Anastasia Potapova came with the kind of comeback that propelled Gauff to the fourth round at Wimbledon in July.

If she beats Babos—who pairs with Kristina Mladenovic on the top-seeded women's doubles team in Flushing Meadows—Gauff could next face Naomi Osaka in the third round. The top-ranked Osaka meets Magda Linette in the afternoon on Armstrong.

Djokovic deals with pain, Federer faces deficit

NEW YORK (AP)—Maybe, just maybe, Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer are feeling some lingering after-effects of their historic Wimbledon final last month.

For Djokovic, it's in the form of a left shoulder that is hurting right now and probably contributed to slower-than-usual serves in the U.S. Open's second round Wednesday night.

For Federer, it's in the form of slow starts: He's lost the opening set each of his first two matches at Flushing Meadows for the first time in 19 times he's entered the Grand Slam tournament.

If they're going to reprise their rivalry late next week in the semifinals, both will need to improve.

Djokovic was repeatedly visited by a trainer for shoulder massages at changeovers during a ragged 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-1 victory over 56th-ranked Juan Ignacio Londero of Argentina. Djokovic is a righty, of course, but he uses his other hand both for ball tosses on serves and on his two-fisted backhand—and both were less effective for stretches.

"I was definitely tested. This is something I've been carrying for a quite a while now," said Djokovic, who repeatedly shook his left arm between points while serving in his first-round match Monday and did that again this time. "It wasn't easy playing with the pain and you have to fight and hope you get lucky with some shots."

Even though he won for the 35th time in his past 36 Slam matches, including in a fifth-set tiebreaker against Federer at the All England Club on July 14, the Serb looked uncomfortable and went away for stretches, including trailing 3-0 in the second set.

Asked how he plans to prepare for his next match Friday, Djokovic replied with a laugh: "I'll probably freeze my arm for 48 hours, not do anything with it, and then see what happens."

Federer, meanwhile, is not about to start trying new tricks now, despite needing to come back twice already.

He got to the third round by beating Damir Dzumhur, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 on an afternoon when rain postponed all but nine scheduled singles matches and every doubles contest.

Still, it's not as if the guy is going to seek some sort of magic solution. Working up more of a sweat in the gym before heading to the court, say. Or playing an extra practice set.

What he chose to focus on, instead, is looking on the bright side: "Can only do better," Federer said, "which is a great thing, moving forward."

At a Flushing Meadows flush with surprises so far—half of the top 12 seeded men already were gone by the time Federer stepped into Arthur Ashe Stadium—he cleaned up his act quickly.

Indeed, Federer was one of the lucky ones who will stay on the usual play-one-day, get-a-day-off Grand Slam schedule. Only matches at Ashe or Louis Armstrong Stadium, the event's two arenas with a retractable roof, were held.

That included a loss by two-time champion Venus Williams to No. 5 seed Elina Svitolina, and victories for No. 2 Ash Barty, No. 3 Karolina Pliskova and 2017 runner-up Madison Keys on the women's side, and a win for No. 7 Kei Nishikori on the men's. In the last matches completed on Day 3, which both ended at around midnight, Serena Williams came back to beat 17-year-old American Caty McNally 5-7, 6-3, 6-1, and qualifier Dominik Koepfer of Germany eliminated Reilly Opelka of the U.S., 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (2).

"You go through a little phase where you don't start so well and everybody asks you right away, 'What are you going to do?' You're like, I don't know. Just go back to the drawing board. Just do the same things again. You hope for a better outcome," said Federer, owner of a total of 20 major trophies, four ahead of Djokovic. "I don't think there is, per se, a secret to a good start, other than warming up well, being well-prepared mentally, not underestimating your opponent. I did all of that. You know me, I will always do that."

He also ceded the first set to 190th-ranked Sumit Nagal in an eventual four-set victory Monday.

Federer called that pattern "just a bit frustrating, more than anything, especially when the level is that low and there is that many errors and the energy is not kind of there."

Colts looking at former Broncos, Texan QB

INDIANAPOLIS—The Indianapolis Colts are looking at quarterbacks. Brock Osweiler was brought in for a visit this week, according to a report.

The Colts have Jacoby Brissett as their starter, with Chad Kelly and Phillip Walker competing for the backup role. When Kelly makes an NFL roster, he faces a two-game suspension.

Andrew Luck, 29, announced his retirement Saturday night.

Osweiler, 28, was a 2012 second-round draft pick by the Denver Broncos. He was seen as a potential successor to Peyton Manning, who had just joined Denver after missing the 2011 season with the Colts due to injury.

He played little in his first three seasons and started seven games in 2015.

Osweiler signed with the Houston Texans in 2016 and started 14 games that year. He returned to Denver in 2017, starting four games. Last year, he started five games for the Miami Dolphins.

He has 7,418 career passing yards on 59.8% accuracy with 37 touchdowns and 31 interceptions.

Meanwhile, the Houston Texans have signed outside linebacker Brennan Scarlett to a one-year, $3.75 million contract extension.

Wednesday's signing will keep Scarlett with the team through the 2020 season. He will make $2.025 million this year after signing in the offseason as a restricted free agent.

Scarlett, who is entering his fourth NFL season, is the backup to Jadeveon Clowney, who has yet to sign his franchise tender.

He was signed by the Texans as an undrafted free agent in 2016 and has appeared in 30 games with eight starts in the last three seasons. The 6-foot-4, 263-pound Scarlett finished with 18 tackles last season after having 26 tackles and two sacks, which were both career highs, in 2017.

In other transactions, the New England Patriots have acquired offensive lineman Jermaine Eluemunor from the Baltimore Ravens for an undisclosed draft pick.

Eluemunor was competing to be Baltimore's starting left guard, but evidently didn't make enough of an impression to keep around.

So the Patriots grabbed the former fifth-round pick to provide depth in the middle of the line.

The 6-foot-4, 335-pound Eluemunor played in eight games as a rookie in 2017 and in nine games last year, making one start.

The trade, made Wednesday, is pending Eluemunor passing a physical.

In Cleveland, Kareem Hunt will have to spend his NFL suspension isolated from his team.

The suspended Browns running back, who must serve an eight-game ban for physical altercations, will not be permitted inside the team's facility starting Saturday at 4 p.m., league spokesman Brian McCarthy said Wednesday in an email to The Associated Press.

AP

Denver Broncos' Brock Osweiler (17) is tackled by Philadelphia Eagles' Malcolm Jenkins during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017, in Philadelphia.

The team had asked Commissioner Roger Goodell to allow Hunt to be around his teammates, arguing he could use the extra support. But to this point, Hunt will not be able to interact with his teammates or staff inside the team's building in Berea, Ohio, until his punishment ends in November.

It's not impossible the league could adjust its policy and amend its stance on Hunt, who was signed as a free agent by Cleveland in March, three months after being released by the Kansas City Chiefs. But to this point, he's going to be on his own.

Hunt was suspended for two violent off-field incidents, one in which he shoved and kicked a woman during a dispute in a hotel hallway. He's eligible to return to the team in November.

Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield was disappointed to learn Hunt won't be present.

"It hurts him not to be around there because if you can be around your teammates, that can help you keep a positive attitude, and that definitely helps," Mayfield said. "So that's tough to hear."

The 24-year-old Hunt has been practicing and playing in preseason games, and the 2017 league rushing champion is expected to be on the field Thursday night when the Browns host the Detroit Lions in their exhibition finale.

Hunt has been attending counseling sessions and said earlier this month that if he couldn't be with his teammates he would "chill out, get good workouts and lay low."

Although Hunt will have to stay away from the Browns, wide receiver Antonio Callaway will be allowed in the facility while serving his four-game suspension for violating the league's substance abuse policy.

Callaway was suspended earlier this month during training camp. He won't be eligible to return until the Oct. 7 game at San Francisco. Callaway owned up to his mistake, which followed a run of off-field issues while he was in college.

On Tuesday, Browns coach Freddie Kitchens said he hoped Callaway would be allowed to be with his teammates.

"If we were in fact able to do it, one of the good reasons will be because Antonio is recovering from an ankle injury," Kitchens said. "To make sure that he gets the proper medical care and treatment, that would benefit the person as much as anything."

In Colorado, tough-luck tight end Jake Butt said he's opted to have arthroscopic surgery on his troublesome left knee , a procedure scheduled for Thursday that he hopes will speed his return to the field.

Still, his 2019 season could be in jeopardy because so many Denver Broncos players are sidelined that general manager John Elway and coach Vic Fangio will have several tough decisions to make when paring the roster to 53 players this weekend.

Butt, a third-year pro, has only played in three NFL games, all of them last season before he tore his left ACL at practice in September. He missed his rookie season in 2017 after tearing his other ACL in his final game for Michigan. He also tore his right ACL during his sophomore season in Ann Arbor.

Butt slowly worked his way back into action during the offseason this year but a week into training camp, pain and swelling in his left knee sidelined him for three weeks.

Team USA arrives in China, all set for World Cup

SHANGHAI (AP)—After a month of practice and years of planning, the U.S. men's basketball team has arrived at the World Cup.

An all-night flight from Sydney to Shanghai that landed early Thursday brought the two-time defending World Cup champion Americans to China's most-populous city, where they'll play three first-round games starting Sunday. It took more than 10 hours of flying time, then another two-plus hours for the team to clear customs and finally reach its hotel.

From there, a few hours of relaxing awaited before a scheduled afternoon practice.

"I'm ready to get things going," U.S. guard Kemba Walker of the Boston Celtics said.

A handful of fans waited outside the team hotel on a rainy morning, getting there a couple hours before the buses from the airport pulled in just with the hope of grabbing a few autographs. Some players obliged, as did U.S. coach Gregg Popovich —who used a gold marker to carefully sign his name on an array of photos, sneakers and basketballs.

A couple minutes later, the Americans were headed upstairs. Rest was foremost on the agenda.

"Great to be in Shanghai, start of World Cup in couple days," U.S. forward Khris Middleton of the Milwaukee Bucks said as he took the escalator toward his room. "Excited and ready to go."

The travel itineraries for the U.S. have already been daunting.

The flights from Los Angeles to Melbourne, then Melbourne to Sydney and now Sydney to Shanghai add up to nearly 30 hours and 14,000 miles in the air. If the U.S. makes the medal round, there'll be about another 2,500 miles of travel within China. Add the return flight to the U.S. after the tournament, and the trip's total will easily exceed 22,000 miles—more than half a regular season's worth of travel for most NBA teams.

All that flying comes in the span of basically a month. And that doesn't even count what it took for players to individually reach Las Vegas and Los Angeles, the site of the two training camp weeks.

"We're feeling great," U.S. center Myles Turner of the Indiana Pacers said. "We learned a lot over these past couple weeks, learned a lot about each other, learned a lot about the competition. We're getting to know each other better. As opposed to just running a whole bunch of plays, we're reading each other, making plays off each other."

The Americans went 3-1 on their pre-World Cup tour, beating Spain in Anaheim, California, then splitting two games against Australia in Melbourne—the loss snapping a 78-game winning streak for the senior national team in major competition, dating to 2006 and then topping Canada in the final tuneup.

"We have a great team of guys, very unselfish group," Bucks center Brook Lopez said before the team left Australia. "We all have the same goal in mind. A lot of young guys, so we have a lot of guys who are learning on the fly. We don't have a problem being a team. Our guys have come together really quick."

And now, with the trip to the other side of the world finally complete, the games now count.

"Get the real thing started," Walker said as he walked down the jetway in Sydney. "It's about that time.

Off-road duathlon, trail run races tomorrow

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The IT&E Duathlon and Trail Run is scheduled for tomorrow and registration will still be accepted on the day of the event.

Triathlon Association of the CNMI president Ricky Castro sees a tough competition both in the trail run and individual duathlon races.

"The competition in the 6-kilometer run is stiff with the entry of the top winners last year and young runners on island. It's the same thing with individual duathlon, while we also expect some competition in the team relays," Castro said.

He added that registration is still welcome this Saturday before the start of the event, which is for avid runners and off-road enthusiasts.

"We may accept registration on race day but with an increase fee of $10," Castro said.

Race number distribution starts at 5:30am at the Last Command Post in Marpi and the gun start will be at 6:15am.

The run course will cover the Unai Laggua Drive, Banzai Trail, and Banzai Cliff with the start and end point at the Last Command Post. For the duathlon, the 20K bike portion will require riders to past through FEBC, Ayuyu and Binadu drive, Million Gallon Tank, As Matuis (no Radar Station), Kalabera Road, Bird Island (no Auto Bahn), Santa Clause Trail, Banzail Trail, and Banzai Cliff before they head back to the start/finish line at Last Command Post. For the 2.5K run of the duathlon, runners will leave the Last Command Post and head to hair pin curve before going back to the start/finish line.

Interested participants can register under the 6K trail run male/female; duathlon individual (male; female); duathlon team (male), and duathlon team (mixed). Prizes include medals and gift certificates, Hell of the Marianas entry, and goodies for the Top 3 in each category. Non-winners will receive medals for completing the course.

"We are grateful to our partners who always support our events like IT&E, the title sponsor, Kanoa Resort for the prizes, Gatorade as the official power drink, the NMI Cycling Federation, and Aloha Maid," said Castro.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Emily Northtrop, right, and Heather Taylor navigate the trail bike course in the Marpi area during last year's IT&E Duathlon and Trail Run

CUKI

From Page 32

in the featherweight class, men's purple belt next month. Masga had the same fate as Shane and will go for a better finish time in the men's purple belt.

Nuique and the lone female competitor on the team, Itibus, will have their debuts in the Asian Open and will participate in the men's Masters 1 blue belt lightweight and women's white belt light featherweight classes, respectively.

"We medalled last year and took home one bronze and one silver. With the experience gained from last year and with the awesome training we've indulged ourselves the past 10 months, we are looking forward to bettering our results," said Cuki.

The Trench Tech head prevailed in his first two matches in the brown belt Masters 4 category of last year's Asian Open to set up a finals showdown against X-Treme Jiu-Jitsu Academy' Masahiko Kogo. The Japanese eventually won on points.

Kier Agda was the other medalist for Team Trench Tech, as he finished third in the white belt medium/heavy class after taking down his first opponent.

This year's Trench Tech delegation to the Asian Open is supported by the Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan Apparel, Saipan Skydive, Black Wood Saipan, FISG, Saipan Crew Boats, IT&E, Capt. John H.B. Salas, and lawyer Jose Mafnas Jr.

GSM

From Page 32

run for the Bears at the top of the third inning, while Payton Lizama delivered the other run in the sixth. The Bears had the opportunity to tie the game at the top of the seventh and last inning when Henry Lizama doubled with two outs. However, Angel Palacios went down on a 4-3 putout play, allowing GSM to keep the lead and the win.

In the other game last Saturday, the Mariners defeated the Blue Jays, 9-4.

The Mariners were down after six innings, 3-4, but battled back and grabbed the victory after making six runs at the top of the seventh inning. Ton Tenorio hit a two-run single in the last inning and also reached off the Blue Jays' error to lead the Mariners. Eli Augenbaugh, Mark and Jonah Flores, and Manny Villagomez also scored for the Mariners.

Davie Matagolai and Aurel Mendiola recorded the first two runs for the Blue Jays in the first inning, while Ian Norita and Sho Taguchi made it home in the third.

SPORTS

From Page 32

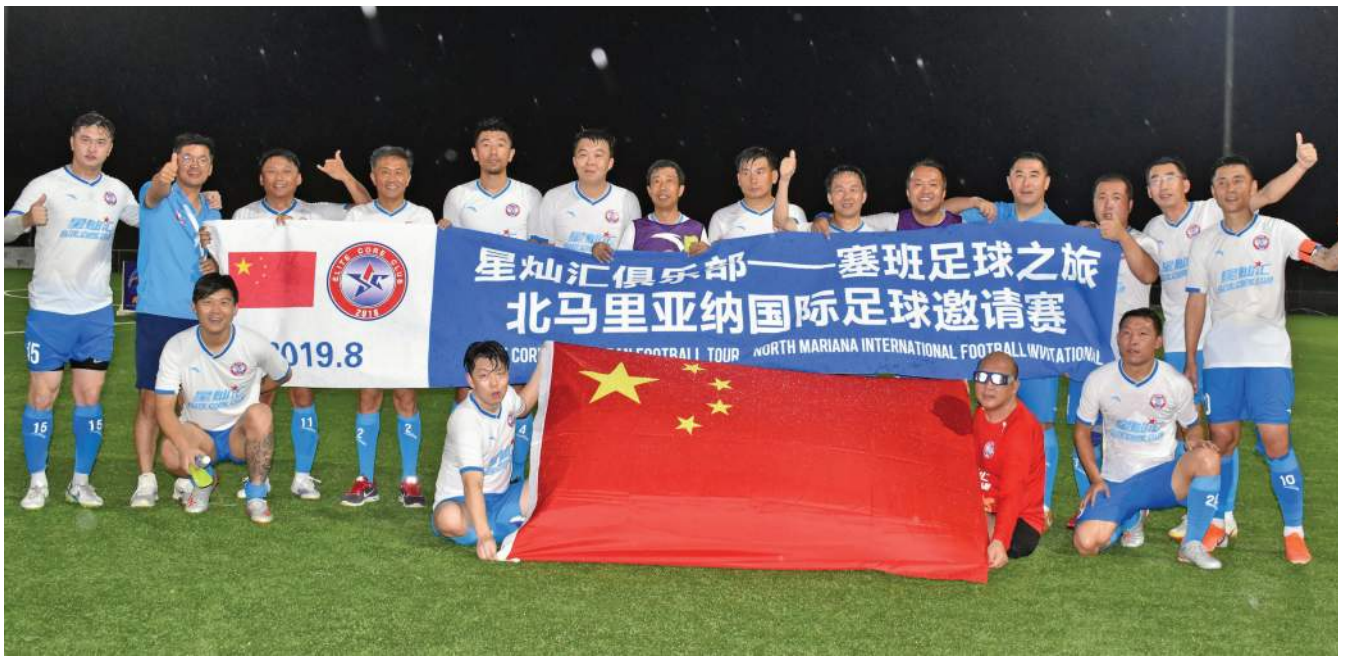
that concluded last Monday after three days of competition.

Beijing 97 United team manager Lingyu Yang, through an interpreter, said their group was impressed with the NMISTC, especially with its floodlight system, as it was pretty convenient for them to play at night. He also commended how well-organized the tournament was and if given an opportunity, they would love to come back or even bring other teams to Saipan and play at the soccer facility.

Jerry Tan, president of NMIFA, which organized the inaugural tournament in coordination with Century Tours, said the association is pleased to host off-island teams and provide them with an enjoyable experience playing at the NMISTC and challenging top-level squads in the Commonwealth.

"We are happy that our facility continues to draw interest from teams which are looking to play some games or train here. We are also pleased to work with the stakeholders in our tourism industry to help bring teams and their families here not only to play sports, but also enjoy our beautiful island," Tan said.

Yang and his 10 teammates plus 18 family members went to Managaha Island last Sunday before their game against Beijing Elite and were in awe of the pristine waters of one of Saipan's best attractions. Beijing Elite midfielder Ye Xiao and the group's 18 other players and 14 family members also checked Saipan's other sites and beaches and were impressed with what they saw. Besides the two Beijing squads and their families, six filming crew and three staff from Century Tours Beijing were also here for five days, getting footages to show back home.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Beijing Elite Core Club players gesture to the crowd after completing their participation in the Northern Marianas Invitational Football Tournament last Monday at the NMI Soccer Training Center.

Century Tours business development manager Owen Ji said that it is through the great experience of tourists and availability of excellent facilities in the CNMI that they are able to reach out to the China market.

"In order to promote Saipan and diversify the destination to compete with other island-destination, we recognize Saipan as a wonderful place for playing soccer in terms of facility, climate, and the short flying distance from China. With more travelers coming under sport tourism group, the local tourism industry will get to benefit as well. Overall, the visiting players were very impressed by the elaborate preparation from the NMIFA, the gorgeous scenery, and the local people's warmth and hospitality," Ji said.

Meanwhile, the Marianas Visitors Authority welcomed the NMIFA initiative and other events that aim at boosting sports tourism in the CNMI.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority considers sports as one of our top priorities to promote. We, as the tourism bureau, organize various familiarization tours with key media partners and travel partners for each sporting events to further expose and promote the event to our source markets," MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo said.

"We are always looking for opportunities and also welcoming opportunities to further have our destination be exposed as a suitable sport destination for professional trainings. Now, with the new soccer pitch we have and with the restoration of sporting venues, such as Oleai Sports Complex, we are confident that we will attract the attention of sport teams to choose our destination for training," she added.

Besides the two Beijing teams, NMIFA has hosted the two Guam national squads (2018 Marianas Cup) and a Guam youth club at the NMISTC, and in the past has brought in groups from Japan and Taiwan. A few more teams from Japan and China have also approached NMIFA about the possibility of coming to Saipan and playing at the NMISTC early this year, but plans did not materialize because Super Typhoon Yutu came and caused significant damage to the island and its major facilities. The NMISTC has since undergone repairs post-Yutu and will continue to have upgrades through the help of the Asian Football Confederation, East Asian Football Federation, and other generous partners.

With NMIFA seeking for the continued improvement of the NMISTC, Tan, in coordination with MVA and other stakeholders in the tourism industry, is hoping to reach out to Korea in the future since the CNMI considers the Asian country as one of its top markets.

"We will continue to work with our partners not only to showcase high-level soccer tournaments/teams, but also look for opportunities to contribute to the growth of sports tourism in the CNMI. We definitely look forward to seeing more foreign teams enjoy our island hospitality and great facility," the NMIFA president said. ***(PR)***

Cubs hammer Syndergaard in win vs Mets

PAGE 28

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Serena avoids upset against 17-year-old

PAGE 29

Sports tourism boost for NMI

When the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association built the NMI Soccer Training Center, the intent was not only to highlight competition, but also open doors for tourism development opportunities through the sport.

That goal has been steadily realized, as several teams have visited Saipan and utilized the facility in Koblerville since inauguration in July last year. The recent squads to have set foot at the artificial turf of the NMISTC were the Beijing Elite Core Club and the Beijing 97 United Football Club, which played against the CNMI Boys U18 National Team and the M-League All-Stars in the Northern Marianas Invitational Football Tournament

See SPORTS on Page 31

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Beijing Elite Core Football Club's Yiwen Sun, left, battles the CNMI Boys U18 National Team's Ronnel Ocanada for possession, while the former's teammate, He Li, moves closer to the play during the opening game in the Northern Marianas Invitational Football Tournament last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Cuki returns to Asian Open BJJ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Black belt and Trench Tech co-founder Cuki Alvarez will lead four returnees to the Asian International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation Jiu-Jitsu Championships that will be held in Japan next month.

Alvarez, who won a silver medal in his debut in the most prestigious BJJ tournament in the region last year in Tokyo, will be competing in the men's Masters 4, featherweight class of the 2019 edition of the annual event that will take place in Asakusa from Sept. 13 to 15.

Also seeing action in the gathering of the best BJJ athletes around the world for the second straight time are Paulo Sangalang, Shane Alvarez, and Vince Masga. Rounding of the Trench Tech delegation are athletes Mark Nuique and Lo Itibus, team manager Mari Alvarez, coaching staff Ken Tanzawa, and training partner Jeff Garcia.

Sangalang dropped his opener last season and is hoping to have a better performance when he joins the men's Blue Belt lightweight division. Shane triumphed in his first round-round match in 2018, but lost in the second so he will try to redeem himself

See CUKI on Page 31

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Trench Tech athletes and officials participating in the 2019 Asian International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation Jiu-Jitsu Championships in Japan next month pose for a photo after a training session at the group's training facility in Garapan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ross Zapanta, right, presents the third place trophy to a Beijing 97 United Football Club's Huan Xu during the awards ceremony for the Northern Marianas Invitational Football Tournament last Monday at the NMI Soccer Training Center.

GSM snaps Bears' winning run

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Go See Mark broke the Chalan Kanoa Bears' seven-game winning streak after escaping with a 3-2 victory in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Ballfield.

GSM secured the win and handed the Bears its first loss after scoring three runs at the bottom of the third inning. The defending champions Bears failed to keep their perfect record in the six-team tournament as they were held to one run each in the third and sixth inning. With their 7-1 mark, the Bears are just slightly ahead of the the Mariners (6-1) in the team standings, while GSM moved up from fourth to third with its 5-3 slate. The Blue Jays (4-3), Aces (0-10), and Rockies (0-1) round out the rankings.

Lancaster Secharmidal led GSM's close win over the Bears, as he hit a two-RBI single in the pivotal third inning. Franco Nakamura and Jimmy Demapan reached off Secharmidal's single and the latter also scored off Jerome Delos Santos' single.

Kiku Lizama made the first

See GSM on Page 31